

1 BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

2 STATE OF OREGON

3 In the Matter of the
4 Teaching License of,

5 KAREN DIANE HUTCHINSON TALASKI

STIPULATION AND ORDER

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7 Based on negotiations between the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
8 (Commission) and Karen Diane Hutchinson Talaski, the parties have agreed to enter into a
9 stipulation of facts, a voluntary surrender of Ms. Hutchinson Talaski's Oregon Teaching License
10 and certain conditions set forth below. In entering into this stipulation, Ms. Hutchinson Talaski
11 waives her right to a hearing and understands that the Commission will accept the surrender of
12 her license and will revoke the teaching license.

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14 **STIPULATED FACTS**

15 1. Ms. Hutchinson Talaski holds a basic Oregon Teaching License with an
16 endorsement in elementary education.

17 2. Hutchinson Talaski was employed as a teacher with the Morrow County School
18 District from August 1992 until October 1998 when she resigned her position.

19 3. During a period between September 1994 and August 1995, Ms. Hutchinson
20 Talaski served in the capacity of ^{treasurer} ~~secretary~~ ^{KT} of the Morrow County Education Association. During
21 that time frame, Ms. Hutchinson Talaski embezzled approximately \$9,000.00 from funds
22 belonging to the Morrow County Education Association.

23 4. As a result of the above, Ms. Hutchinson Talaski was indicted by the Morrow
24 County Grand Jury on December 14, 1998, and charged with multiple counts of theft.

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1 5. On March 18, 1999, Ms. Hutchinson Talaski entered a plea of guilty to the crime
2 of Theft in the First Degree and was sentenced by the Morrow County Circuit Court to pay a fine
3 of \$500.00, suspended, to serve a suspended jail sentence, to pay restitution in the amount of
4 \$9,000.00 to the Morrow County Education Association and to be placed on formal probation
5 with the Oregon Department of Corrections for a period of two years.

6 6. One of the conditions of probation is that Ms. Hutchinson Talaski cooperate with
7 the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission regarding two years revocation of her teaching
8 license. Ms. Hutchinson Talaski agrees to surrender her Oregon Teaching License and to waive
9 her right to apply for reinstatement of her teaching license for a period of two years from the date
10 of her conviction in March 1999.

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13 Karen Hutchinson Talaski 5/4/99
14 Karen Hutchinson Talaski Date

15 David V. Myton 5/6/99
16 David V. Myton, Executive Director Date
17 Teacher Standards & Practices Commission

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19 **ULTIMATE FINDING OF FACT**

20 Ms. Hutchinson Talaski engaged in theft of approximately \$9,000.00 from the Morrow
21 County Education Association.

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23 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

24 The above conduct constitutes gross unfitness in violation of OAR 584-020-0040(5)(c).

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DISCUSSION

2 Ms. Hutchinson Talaski's criminal behavior was directly related to her responsibilities as
3 an educator and the trust afforded to her by her colleagues, her school and community.

4 If in the future Ms. Hutchinson Talaski applies for reinstatement of her teaching license,
5 the decision would lie within the discretion of the commissioners who consider the matter at that
6 time. Without limiting the discretion of future commissioners, it would be expected that
7 Ms. Hutchinson Talaski demonstrate, at a minimum, that she has complied with all conditions of
8 court ordered probation, that she has not violated any professional standards under OAR 584
9 Division 20, and that she has shown evidence of having successfully completed counseling
10 and/or mental health treatment related to her unprofessional conduct.

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ORDER

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13 The Commission accepts the voluntary surrender of the Oregon Teaching License of
14 Karen Diane Hutchinson Talaski, and the Commission revokes the license pursuant to OAR 584-
15 050-0027.

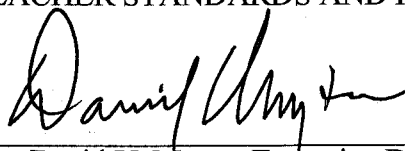
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17 DATED this 19th day of May 1999.

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TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

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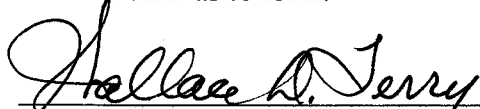
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22 By: David V. Myton, Executive Director
Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

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24 APPROVED as to form:

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26 Wallace D. Terry
Attorney for Karen Hutchinson/Talaski