

1 BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
2 OF THE STATE OF OREGON

3 In the Matter of the) STIPULATION OF FACTS
4 Teaching License of) AND ORDER OF PROBATION
5 JUDITH (HESTIKIND) WEBB)

6 On or about September 25, 1997, the Teacher Standards and
7 Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity
8 for hearing to Judith Hestikind Webb (Webb) in which the
9 Commission proposed to suspend or revoke her Oregon teaching
10 license or to impose other discipline under ORS 342.177. The
11 basis for the proposed action was Webb's failure to report to
12 work on or about October 21, 1996, and for a significant time
13 thereafter; her theft of over \$4,000 from Dotty's Deli where she
14 worked part time; and her planned and executed suicide attempt.

15 The Commission and Webb have now reviewed the matters
16 alleged and have agreed that their respective interests together
17 with the public interest, are best served by entering into an
18 agreement and order that suspends Webb's license for nine months
19 with conditions for restoration and probation. This agreement
20 and Order is based upon the following Stipulation of Facts. In
21 entering this Stipulation, Webb waives her right to a hearing.
22 This agreement sets forth the facts upon which the parties have
23 agreed including the Commission's order of suspension and
24 probation as set forth below.

25 FINDINGS OF FACT

26 Webb agrees and stipulates that evidence in the record
exists to support the following Findings of Fact by the Commission.

1 1. On or about October 21, 1996, Webb abandoned her school
2 work without notice and without taking steps to assure that the
3 needs of the school and students would be met. She contacted the
4 school district's EAP therapist on ^{or about EAP} October 27, 1996, but did not
5 contact district administration directly, until on or about
6 November 12, 1996. Her absence was investigated by the police
7 due the suspicious nature of her disappearance.

8 2. On or about October 20, 1996, Webb stole approximately
9 \$4,200 from Dotty's Deli where she worked part-time. Webb
10 entered into a civil compromise, repaid the money and no criminal
11 charges were filed.

12 3. Webb used the money taken from Dotty's Deli to fly to
13 Las Vegas to execute a suicide plan. On or about October 23,
14 1996, she attempted suicide.

15 4. Webb's actions resulted in media coverage that would
16 raise questions in the mind of a reasonable person about Webb's
17 suitability to teach.

18 5. Webb has been under a physician's care since the
19 October 1996 incidents described above. She was on approved
20 disability and/or sick leave for the remainder of the 1996-97
21 school year. According to her physician, Webb had progressed to
22 a point where she was released to teach for the 1997-98 school
23 year.

24 6. Upon receipt of Webb's request to return to teaching,
25 the district commenced pre-termination proceedings. Thereafter,
26 Webb resigned, with an effective date of October 21, 1997.

1 compliance with the treatment plan of her mental health care
2 provider to the extent such treatment is recommended. She must
3 also permit the Commission to contact her mental health care
4 provider solely to verify such compliance.

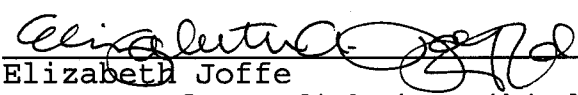
5 Failure to comply with the terms of this Order will
6 constitute separate grounds for taking licensure action.

7 DATED this 19 day of May 1998.

8
9 
10 David V. Myton, Executive Director

11 Date: May 19, 1998
12

13 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

14
15 
16 Elizabeth Joffe
17 Attorney for Judith (Hestikind) Webb

18 Date: 4-21-98

19 
20 Gary M. Cordy
21 Attorney for Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

22 Date: 4-20-98
23

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