1 BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION 2 OF THE STATE OF OREGON 3 4 In the Matter of the DEFAULT ORDER OF 5 Educator License of) REVOCATION 6 CASSANDRA B CAMERON 7 8 9 On September 28, 2018, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission 10 (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Cassandra Cameron 11 (Cameron) in which the Commission charged her with Gross Neglect of Duty and Gross 12 Unfitness. The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 13 7018 0680 0000 1028 2807 to the address on file with the Commission. The Notice 14 designated the Commission file as the record for purposes of proving a prima facie case. 15 The Certified Mail was not returned to the Commission "delivered" but Cameron's 16 attorney acknowledged receiving the notice. The regular first class mail was not returned to the Commission, and assumed delivered. The Notice of Opportunity for 17 18 Hearing, dated September 28, 2018, and signed by Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director, 19 stated: 20 "IF A REQUEST FOR HEARING IS NOT RECEIVED WITHIN THIS 21-DAY PERIOD. YOUR RIGHT TO A HEARING SHALL BE CONSIDERED WAIVED 21 22 UNLESS YOUR FAILURE TO REQUEST A HEARING WAS BEYOND YOUR 23 REASONABLE CONTROL. IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST A HEARING OR IF 24 YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT A HEARING, THE COMMISSION WILL ADOPT AN 25 ORDER OF DEFAULT WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE REVOCATION OR 26 SUSPENSION OF YOUR LICENSE OR OTHER DISCIPLINE." 27 Cameron did not request a hearing. The Commission, therefore, finds Cameron to be in 28 29 default and enters the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and final order, 30 based on the files and records of the Commission concerning this matter. 31 32 FINDINGS OF FACT 1. Cassandra Cameron has been licensed by the Commission since January 5, 2017. 33 34 Cameron's Preliminary Teaching License, with an endorsement in English Language Arts (PK-12), was valid from September 14, 2017, through April 27, 2021. During all 35 relevant times, Cameron was employed by the Dayton School District (DSD). 36

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2. On January 8, 2018, the Commission received a report from DSD alleging that Cameron had engaged in an inappropriate relationship with 17 year old, male student, LD. Beginning on January 6, 2018, district officials received reports from staff and students indicating that Cameron had been engaged in an inappropriate and sexual relationship with LD. The district reported Cameron's conduct to local law enforcement and the Commission. Investigation determined the following:

 On New Year's Eve (2017-2018), LD disclosed to his family that he had been engaged in an inappropriate and eventually a sexual relationship with Cameron, dating back to approximately December 1, 2017. LD advised that he did not wish to get Cameron into any trouble and refused to fully cooperate with authorities.

• Multiple witnesses advised they had observed inappropriate photos and messages between Cameron and LD on LD's cell phone. Students described the photos were of Cameron in various stages of undress. These witnesses also advised that LD had been talking with them about his personal relationship with Cameron. One witness advised that LD stated that on or about December 16, 2017, Cameron rented a hotel room where LD joined her. LD reported Cameron engaged in sexual intercourse with LD while staying at the hotel. LD showed the witness photographs of Cameron and LD together in a hotel room.

• Cameron had inappropriate contact with LD when she drove him to Walmart to buy Christmas lights, then back to her residence. Cameron paid LD to hang the lights at her house. In December of 2016, LD's parents discovered LD was missing from their house at 4:00 a.m. It was later learned that LD was out with Cameron during this time. Cameron had picked LD up and reportedly parked at the Safeway parking lot for several hours before Cameron returned LD to his home.

Evidence obtained from LD's cell phone revealed approximately 120
phone calls or "face times" between Cameron and LD occurring between
December 1, 2017, and January 9, 2018. Subpoenaed phone records for
Cameron's phone revealed approximately 149 text messages sent from

1 Cameron to LD from December 31, 2017 through February 23, 2018. 2 Review of these phone records indicates these conversations took place at 3 all hours including late at night and early in the morning. For example, 4 one Facetime conversation took place on January 5, 2018, at 1:04 a.m. and 5 lasted two hours and twelve minutes. Recovered files on LD's phone 6 revealed a photo exchange of Cameron in a bikini and a text message 7 reading "Deal. Because SOMEDAY we are going to fuck", and another with 8 a photo of Cameron's face captioned with "Calm down, Babe. Love you".

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- On January 4th, and 5th 2018, Cameron engaged in a Facebook Messenger conversation with LD's mother about Cameron's relationship with LD. In summary the conversation went as follows: LD's Mom (LDM) "What have you decided that you are doing with this situation? We cannot stand by as if nothing has happened...", (Cameron) "I had a long, tough conversation with my husband...and are considering pursuing marriage counseling...I'm hoping that once I am able to speak with someone outside the situation, I'll gain some insight into how I lost myself to this point. I know my actions have gone completely against what I know is right and moral. I never saw this coming...never intended for this to happen, let alone cause anyone pain. I am so, so incredibly sorry for that". LDM requested that Cameron resign her employment to protect LD and the community, to reduce the risk of this being exposed to the community, and preventing Cameron and LD from connecting again. LDM stated that if Cameron was not willing to act then she would go to the school or authorities to be handled. Cameron advised she would comply with LDM's request and on January 8, 2018, Cameron resigned her employment with DSD.
- 3. On June 12, 2018, Cameron participated in an interview with a commission investigator. In the course of the interview, it was determined that Cameron provided false and / or misleading statements to the investigator. For example, Cameron repeatedly answered "No" when asked if she had communicated with LD via text, email or social media. Cameron falsely advised that her social media accounts were private and she had blocked LD from contacting her via Instagram or

Snapchat, adding that she had never had any personal, non-school related communications with LD in any format. Cameron inaccurately informed the investigator she had resigned her employment for family reasons prior to being aware of the rumors or allegations about LD. When confronted with the cell phone and other evidence to the contrary, Cameron continued to deny her role and became evasive and uncooperative.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Cassandra Cameron's conduct described in section two above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (Use professional judgment), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations), OAR 584-020-0030(2)(b) (Skill in communicating with administrators, students, staff, parents, and other patrons), OAR 584-020-0040(4)(f) (Any sexual conduct with a student) as defined by OAR 584-020-0005(5); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates, OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(A) (Not demonstrating or expressing professionally inappropriate interest in a student's personal life), OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(B) (Not accepting or giving or exchanging romantic or overly personal gifts or notes with a student); and OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) (Honoring appropriate adult boundaries with students in conduct and conversations at all times).

Cameron's conduct described in section three above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates, OAR 584-020-0035(3)(a)(*Maintain the dignity of the profession by respecting and obeying the law, exemplifying personal integrity and honesty*); and

1	OAR 584-020-0040(4)(c)(Falsification of any document or knowing
2	misrepresentation directly related to licensure, employment, or professional duties).
3	Furthermore, the conduct alleged in section three above constitutes gross unfitness in
4	violation of ORS 342.175(1)(c); OAR 584-020-0040(5)(b)(Fraud or misrepresentation).
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6	The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon
7	ORS 342.175.
8	FINAL ORDER
9	The Commission hereby revokes Cassandra Cameron's Oregon educator license.
10	IT IS SO ORDERED THIS day of October, 2018.
11	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
	By: Anthony Posiler Executive Director
12	By:
13	Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director
14 15	NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS
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17	YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW MAY
18	BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE
19	SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF
20	ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.