

**BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OCTOBER 13, 2016**

**FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER  
IN RE KERESIA LORRAINE JONES; PLSB CASE NO. 16-088**

At its regular meeting on October 13, 2016, the Arkansas State Board of Education (“Board”) accepted the recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board Ethics Subcommittee (“Ethics Subcommittee”) for disciplinary action against the teaching license of Keresia Lorraine Jones (“Educator Jones”). Based upon Educator Jones’ acceptance of the Ethics Subcommittee’s recommendation and the evidence presented, in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-101 et seq., the Board finds that Educator Jones’ license should be permanently revoked. The Board hereby states as follows:

**I. Findings of Fact:**

- a. The Arkansas Department of Education issued Educator Jones a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2013, valid until December 31, 2017.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Jones violated the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators (“Code of Ethics”) promulgated pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-422 and 6-17-428.
- c. On February 5, 2016, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into the allegation that Educator Jones violated Standard 1: An educator maintains a professional relationship with each student, both in and outside the classroom.
- d. On February 11, 2016, Educator Jones was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee’s authorization to investigate the allegation.

e. On May 6, 2016, after considering the investigator's report and evidence, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found reasonable belief that Educator Jones violated Standard 1 when she:

- Sprayed/attempted to spray a chemical agent (Mace) at a student; and
- Inappropriately stated/indicated that she would hit a student with a chair or other furniture.

The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the Board permanently revoke Educator Jones' license.

f. On May 16, 2016, Educator Jones, through her attorney, was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendations by certified and regular mail.

g. On May 16, 2016, Educator Jones, through her attorney, rejected the Ethics Subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendations, and requested an evidentiary hearing as provided under the Administrative Procedure Act including those set forth in Ark. Code Ann. §§ 25-15-211 and 212.

h. On August 30, 2016, Educator Jones, through her attorney, withdrew her request for an evidentiary hearing and accepted the Ethics Subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendations.

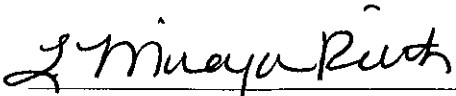
## **II. Conclusion of Law:**

a. The Administrative Procedure Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-208 (b), provides for the resolution of this matter by consent order or default.

b. The Board voted unanimously to permanently revoke Educator Jones' license.

- c. This order shall remain permanently in Educator Jones' professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



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Mireya Reith, Chair  
Arkansas State Board of Education