## BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION September 10, 2015

## IN RE AMANDA LEIGH REILLY FINAL ORDER FOR NONRENEWAL AND REVOCATION OF LICENSE

The Arkansas State Board of Education (Board), at its meeting of September 10, 2015, in the matter of the revocation of the license of Amanda Leigh Reilly finds that upon consideration of the evidence and the Department's recommendation, Ms. Reilly's license should not be renewed and should be permanently revoked in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Ark. Code Ann. 25-15-101 et seq. Accordingly, the Board hereby states as follows:

## I. FINDINGS OF FACT

- Amanda Leigh Reilly held a standard three-year teaching license issued on August 16, 2012, valid until August 16, 2015.
- 2. On July 27, 2015, Ms. Reilly pled guilty to two (2) counts of sexual assault, second degree, and is now a registered sex offender.
- 3. On July 14, 2015, the Department notified Ms. Reilly through her attorney, Mr. Chip Leibovich, that based on Arkansas Code Ann. § 6-17-410 sexual assault in the second degree is a disqualifying offense for licensure, and that the Department would recommend that the Board not renew and permanently revoke her license. Further, the Department advised Ms. Reilly's attorney that she is entitled to seek a waiver of the disqualifying offense from the Board.
- 4. The certified letter was delivered to Mr. Leibovich on July 16, 2015. However, neither Ms. Reilly nor Mr. Leibovich responded to the letter within the time period required by law.

- 5. A motion was made to accept the Department's recommendation that the Board deny the renewal of Ms. Reilly's license and to permanently revoke her license.
  - 6. The Board's vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

## II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW; ORDER

- 1. The State Board of Education may consider certain enumerated offenses as a disqualification for licensing and for employment in a public school. See Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-410(c), 6-17-410(d)(A)(5) and 6-17-411. The Board shall not issue a first-time license nor renew an existing license and shall revoke any existing license not up for renewal of any person who has pled guilty or nolo contendere to or has been found guilty of certain offenses enumerated in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-410. Further, no person holding a license from the Board is eligible for employment by an educational entity if the licensee has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to or has been found guilty of any offense that will or may result in license revocation by the state board under § 6-17-410, unless the state board waives revocation.
- 2. Upon consideration of the evidence presented at the meeting and pursuant to Ark.

  Code Ann. §§ 6-11-105, 6-17-410 and 25-15-201 et seq., the Board accepts the recommendation of the Department, denies the renewal of Amanda Leigh Reilly's license, and permanently revokes her license. Further, Amanda Leigh Reilly is not eligible for employment in an Arkansas public school, school district, or education service cooperative.
- 3. This order shall become a permanent entry in the licensure file of the educator. IT IS SO ORDERED.

Reyce Newton, Chair