COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, :

Petitioner,

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v. : PSPC DOCKET NO. DI-24-012

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CHRISTA M. BINGAMAN, :

Respondent. :

ORDER ACCEPTING SURRENDER

This matter is before the Professional Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) on the Department of Education's (Department) Motion for Entry of Order. The Motion requests that the Commission accept the surrender of the certificates and employment eligibility of Christa M. Bingaman (Respondent) in resolution of the Notice of Charges and Motion for Summary Judgment filed against her. The Motion was presented to the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on March 18, 2024. After careful consideration, the Commission enters this Order accepting Respondent's surrender.

Background

Respondent was issued Day-to-Day Substitute Emergency Permits in the area of All Instructional Areas PK-12. The Department initiated disciplinary proceedings against Respondent with the filing of a Notice of Charges on January 26, 2024. The Notice of Charges alleges that Respondent was convicted of Endangering the Welfare of Children after she left a 1.5-year-old child in a running vehicle for extended periods of time while she gambled. Simultaneous with the filing of the Notice of Charges, the Department filed a Motion for Summary Judgment requesting that the Commission enter summary judgment in its favor and revoke Respondent's certificates and employment eligibility

based upon her conviction.

On January 17, 2024, Respondent signed an Affidavit agreeing to surrender her certificates and employment eligibility. (Motion for Entry of Order, Ex. 1). On March 13, 2024, the Department filed a Motion for Entry of Order requesting that the Commission accept Respondent's surrender in lieu of further disciplinary proceedings.

Surrender

Pursuant to the Educator Discipline Act (Act), surrender shall mean the termination by consent of a certificate or employment eligibility. 24 P.S. § 2070.1b. Surrender of a certificate or employment eligibility constitutes discipline. Id. The Act authorizes the Commission to accept the surrender of Respondent's certificates and employment eligibility.

Order

AND NOW, this 27th day of March 2024, upon consideration of the Department's Motion for Entry of Order, it is hereby Ordered:

- The Motion is granted, and the Commission accepts the surrender of Respondent's certificates and eligibility to be employed as a charter or cyber charter school staff member or contracted educational provider staff member.
- Respondent's certificates and eligibility to be employed as a charter or cyber charter school staff member or contracted educational provider staff member are, therefore, terminated effective on the date of this Order.
- The acceptance by the Commission of the surrender of Respondent's certificates and employment eligibility shall constitute the imposition of discipline against

Respondent.

4. Respondent is not eligible to be employed in a school entity in a position

requiring certification or as a charter or cyber charter school staff member or

contracted educational provider staff member, or eligible for any certificate.

5. In accordance with 24 P.S. § 2070.16(c), the Commission shall not reinstate

Respondent's certificates and employment eligibility for the time period set forth

in 24 P.S. § 1-111(e).

6. The Notice of Charges and Motion for Summary Judgment filed against

Respondent are resolved.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

By:

Myron Yoder

Chairperson Pro Tempore

Attest:

Shane F. Crosby

Executive Director

Date Mailed: March 27, 2024