

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION**

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,	:	
Petitioner,	:	
	:	
v.	:	PSPC DOCKET NO. DI-19-215
	:	
PATRICK F. COLLINS,	:	
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”). The Motion requests that the Commission accept the surrender of the certificate and employment eligibility of Patrick F. Collins (“Respondent”) in resolution of a Notice of Charges filed against him. The Commission heard the Motion at its regularly scheduled meeting on May 11, 2020. Respondent was not present. After careful consideration, the Commission enters this Order accepting Respondent’s surrender.

BACKGROUND

Respondent currently holds an Instructional I Pennsylvania teaching certificate in the areas of Earth and Space Science 7-12 and Biology 7-12. On December 13, 2019, the Department filed a Notice of Charges alleging that on numerous occasions, Respondent was intoxicated in public and breached the public peace, and requesting that the Commission enter an order directing the Department to suspend or revoke Respondent’s certificate and employment eligibility. The Department mailed a copy of the Notice of Charges to Respondent’s last-known address. Respondent did not file an answer to the Notice of Charges.

On February 4, 2020, Respondent, with the advice of his counsel, Maureen K. Collins, Esquire, signed a Settlement Agreement and Affidavit of Surrender agreeing to surrender his certificate and employment eligibility. (Motion for Entry of Order, Ex's. 1 & 2). On February 10, 2020, 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 certificate and employment eligibility.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 22nd day of June 2020, upon consideration of the Motion for Entry of Order filed by the Department of Education, it is hereby Ordered:

1. The Motion is granted, and the Commission accepts the surrender of Respondent's Instructional I certificate and eligibility to be employed as a charter or cyber charter school staff member or contracted educational provider staff member.
2. Respondent's Instructional I certificate and his 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.
3. The acceptance by the Commission of the surrender of Respondent's certificate

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 until his certificate or employment eligibility is reinstated in accordance with the Act.
5. The Notice of Charges filed against Respondent is resolved.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND
PRACTICES COMMISSION

By: 

Myron Yoder
Chairperson Pro Tempore

Attest: 

Shane F. Crosby
Executive Director

Date Mailed: June 22, 2020