

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

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,  
Petitioner,**

**v.**

**HAROLD J. HARPER,  
Respondent.**

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**PSPC DOCKET NO. DI-19-225**

**MEMORANDUM AND ORDER**

This matter is before the Professional Standards and Practices Commission (“Commission”) upon the Department of Education’s (“Department”) December 27, 2019 Motion for Entry of Order, which seeks approval of Respondent’s Affidavit of Surrender.

Respondent was issued a LT Sub with No Educational Obligation Emergency Permit in the area of Dental Hygienist PK-12. On November 26, 2019, an educator misconduct complaint was filed with the Department alleging that Respondent was criminally charged with Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, Unlawful Contact with Minor, Indecent Assault, and Corruption of Minors after admitting that, over a period of five years, he inappropriately touched and performed oral sex at least 20-30 times on a student he tutored when she was between the ages of 12 and 16-years-old. On December 23, 2019, Respondent signed an Affidavit agreeing to permanently<sup>1</sup> surrender his educator certification and his employment eligibility. Pursuant to the Act, surrender of a certificate and/or employment eligibility constitutes discipline. 24 P.S. § 2070.1b. The Department has filed the instant Motion requesting that the Commission enter an order accepting Respondent’s Affidavit of Surrender in resolution of the disciplinary matter.

Accordingly, we enter the following:

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1. Section 16(b)(2) of the Educator Discipline Act (“Act”) provides that the Commission shall not reinstate a certificate or employment eligibility surrendered for conduct relating to sexual abuse or exploitation as that term is defined in the Act and 23 P.S. § 6303(a). 24 P.S. § 2070.16(b)(2). In his Affidavit of Surrender, Respondent acknowledged that section 16(b)(2) permanently bars his reinstatement as an educator.

**ORDER**

AND NOW, this 31<sup>st</sup> day of January 2020, upon consideration of the Motion for Entry of Order filed by the Department of Education, it is hereby ORDERED that the Motion is GRANTED and the educator certification and employment eligibility to serve as a charter or cyber charter school staff member or a contracted educational provider staff member of HAROLD J. HARPER is SURRENDERED in accordance with the foregoing Memorandum and Respondent's Affidavit of Surrender. Pursuant to 24 P.S. § 2070.16(b)(2) the Commission shall not reinstate Respondent's educator certification or employment eligibility. This Order is effective IMMEDIATELY.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND  
PRACTICES COMMISSION

By:



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Myron Yoder  
Chairperson Pro Tempore

Attest:



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Shane F. Crosby  
Executive Director

Date Mailed: January 31, 2020