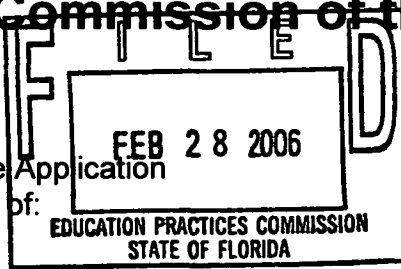




## Before the Education Practices Commission of the State of Florida

*IN RE* The Denial of the Application  
for Teacher's Certificate of:

ELIJAH WILLIAMS



CASE N<sup>o</sup> 05-0262-D

EPC INDEX N<sup>o</sup> 06-087-FOI

### Final Order

Elijah Williams, holds Florida educator's certificate no. 921625. The Commissioner has filed a Notice of Reasons to deny him authorization for an educator's certificate. A copy of the Notice of Reasons (NOR) is attached to and made a part of this Order.

This cause came before a teacher panel of the Education Practices Commission on February 3, 2006, in Tallahassee, Florida pursuant to Petitioner's Motion for Reconsideration of a previous Final Order in the case. Petitioner was represented by Beth Ellen Sullivan. Mr. Williams was present for the hearing and did not oppose the reconsideration.

The Board voted to Vacate the prior Final Order. Mr. Williams chose not to dispute the allegations of the NOR and requested an informal hearing to present evidence and testimony in mitigation. The Commission considered written material and oral statements from Mr. Williams.

The factual allegations in the NOR were adopted by the Education Practices Commission as its findings of fact. Counts 1 through 3 of the NOR were adopted by the Education Practices Commission as its conclusions of law.

Upon consideration, it is ORDERED that the application for an educator's certificate of Elijah Williams shall be GRANTED. It is further ORDERED:

1. Mr. Williams is issued a letter of reprimand.

2. Upon employment in any public or private position requiring a Florida educator's certificate, Mr. Williams shall be placed on 2 employment years of probation with the conditions that during that period, he shall:

A. Immediately notify the investigative office in the Department of Education upon employment or termination of employment in the state in any public or private position requiring a Florida educator's certificate.

B. Have his immediate supervisor submit annual performance reports to the investigative office in the Department of Education.

C. Pay to the Commission during the first 6 months of each probation year the administrative costs (\$150) of monitoring probation assessed to the educator.

D. Violate no law and shall fully comply with all district school board policies, school rules, and State Board of Education rules.

E. Satisfactorily perform his assigned duties in a competent, professional manner.

F. Bear all costs of complying with the terms of a final order entered by the Commission.


G. Submit evidence of completion of 10 Hours of community service in the area of child abuse and neglect.

H. As a further condition of probation, Mr. Williams shall provide a certified college

transcript to verify successful (a letter grade no lower than a "B+") completion of 3 hours of college level course-work in the area of Ethics, which may be taken online.

This order shall become effective upon filing with the Clerk of the Commission.

DONE AND ORDERED, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2006.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DEBORAH SHEPARD, Presiding Officer

**COPIES FURNISHED TO:**

Bureau of Professional Practices

Bureau of Teacher Certification

*Florida Administrative Law Reports*

Superintendent  
Brevard County Schools  
2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way  
Viera, FL 32940-6699

Assistant Superintendent  
Human Resources  
Brevard County Schools  
2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way  
Viera, FL 32940-6699

Beth Ellen Sullivan, Attorney at Law

DOE Counsel for PPS

Daniel Biggins  
Assistant Attorney General

Probation Office

**NOTICE OF RIGHT TO JUDICIAL REVIEW**

A PARTY WHO IS ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THIS FINAL ORDER IS ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW PURSUANT TO SECTION 120.68, FLORIDA STATUTES. REVIEW PROCEEDINGS ARE GOVERNED BY THE FLORIDA RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE. SUCH PROCEEDINGS ARE COMMENCED BY FILING ONE COPY OF A NOTICE OF APPEAL WITH THE EDUCATION PRACTICES COMMISSION AND A SECOND COPY, ACCOMPANIED BY FILING FEES PRESCRIBED BY LAW, WITH THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL, FIRST DISTRICT, OR WITH THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL IN THE APPELLATE DISTRICT WHERE THE PARTY RESIDES. THE NOTICE OF APPEAL MUST BE FILED WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS OF RENDITION OF THIS ORDER.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing Order was mailed to Elijah Williams, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Milton, Florida 32583 by Certified U.S. Mail this 28 day of \_\_\_\_\_

February, 2006.



\_\_\_\_\_  
DON D. SHIELDS  
Education Practices Commission



**EDUCATION PRACTICES COMMISSION**  
**STATE OF FLORIDA**

**KATHLEEN RICHARDS**  
Executive Director

**DEBORAH SHEPARD**  
Chairperson

**DANIEL R. BIGGINS**  
Legal Counsel

**LUCILE CASEY**  
Co-Chairperson

February 3, 2006

Elijah Williams

[REDACTED]  
Milton, Florida 32583

Re: Elijah Williams vs. John L. Winn  
EPC No.: 05-0262-D; DOE No.: 921625

Dear Mr. Williams:

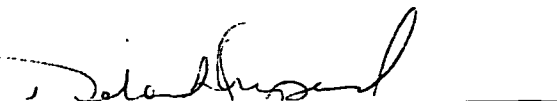
As you know, the teacher panel of the Education Practices Commission reviewed the matter pending against you. The panel concluded that you violated the Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession prescribed by the State Board of Education rules and hereby reprimands you for the conduct alleged in the Notice of Reasons which is incorporated herein.

This panel, composed of your peers, believes that, as a teacher, you are required to exercise a measure of leadership beyond reproach. By your actions, you have lessened the reputation of all who practice our profession. The profession cannot condone your actions, nor can the public who employ us.

The Education Practices Commission sincerely hopes it is your intention to never allow this situation to occur again or indeed, to violate any professional obligation in fulfilling your responsibilities as an educator. To violate the standards of the profession will surely result in further action being taken against you.

This letter of reprimand is being placed in your state certification file, and a copy is being sent to the Brevard County School Board for placement in your personnel file.

Sincerely,

  
Deborah Shepard, Presiding Officer

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**IN RE: The Denial of the  
Application for Teacher's  
Certificate of:**

**CASE NO. 034-0539-QA**

**ELIJAH ELEGBRA WILLIAMS.**

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**NOTICE OF REASONS**

ELIJAH ELEGBRA WILLIAMS, [REDACTED] Milton, Florida 32583, Department of Education Number 921625, having filed his application for a Florida Educator's Certificate before the Department of Education; and

The Department of Education having reviewed the application in accordance with Sections 1012.56, 1012.795 and 1012.796, Florida Statutes, has determined that ELIJAH ELEGBRA WILLIAMS is not entitled to the issuance of a Florida Educator's Certificate, accordingly;

The Department of Education files and serves upon the Applicant, ELIJAH ELEGBRA WILLIAMS, its Notice of Reasons for its denial in accordance with the provisions of Section 120.60, Florida Statutes, and as grounds therefore, alleges:

On or about May 14, 1999, in Gwinnett County, Georgia, the Applicant was pulled over in a routine traffic stop. When the officers told the Applicant to move his Mercedes vehicle to another location, he refused. He was arrested and charged with Obstruction. On or about November 26, 2001, the State Attorney's Office issued a *nolle prosequi* on the case.

On or about September 12, 2002, an Order on Petition for Contempt and Order for Incarceration on the Applicant was issued by the Superior Court of Gwinnett County. The court order indicated that he was in willful contempt for his refusal to pay a lump sum of \$10,000.00 as required pursuant to a Consent Order Granting Legitimation, Custody and visitation, Expenses, Necessaries, Attorney's Fees and Temporary Child Support. The court order further stated that the Applicant was in willful contempt for his refusal to pay \$6000.00 pursuant to a Consent Final Order on Child Support.

On or about September 23, 2002, in Duluth, Georgia, law enforcement officers attempted to serve an arrest warrant on the Applicant at his Georgia home for a contempt charge stemming from failure to pay child support. The Applicant stated to officers that he also owned homes in South

Carolina and Florida. The Applicant hid in the trunk of his car in an attempt to elude the officers. While searching the house for the Applicant, the officers found a gun. The Applicant was arrested and charged with Possession of a Firearm and Obstructing or Hindering a Law Enforcement Officer. During the arrest, the Applicant threatened one of the officer, stating that "I'll see you again and when I do, things will be different. I will make sure I run into you again," or words to that effect. He was further charged with Terrorist Threats. He pled guilty to the Obstruction charge, and the other two counts were administratively dismissed on or about November 26, 2002. On or about July 2, 2003, the court adjudicated him guilty of Obstruction and sentenced him to forty (40) hours of community service and twelve (12) months probation.

The Department of Education charges:

### **STATUTE VIOLATIONS**

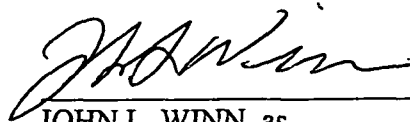
**COUNT 1:** The Applicant is in violation of Section 1012.56(2)(e), Florida Statutes, which requires that the holder of a Florida Educator's Certificate be of good moral character.

**COUNT 2:** The Applicant is in violation of Section 1012.56(10)(a), Florida Statutes, which provides that the Department of Education may deny an Applicant a certificate if the department possesses evidence satisfactory to it that the Applicant has committed an act or acts, or that a situation exists for which the Education Practices Commission would be authorized to revoke a teaching certificate.

**COUNT 3:** The Applicant is in violation of Section 1012.795(1)(c), Florida Statutes, in that he has been guilty of gross immorality or an act involving moral turpitude.

**WHEREFORE**, the undersigned concludes that ELIJAH ELEGEBRA WILLIAMS has committed an act or acts or that a situation exists for which the Education Practices Commission would be authorized to revoke an educator's certificate. It is therefore, respectfully recommended that the Education Practices Commission affirm the Department of Education's denial of the issuance of a teaching certificate to the Applicant based upon the reasons set forth herein, in accordance with the Explanation of Rights form which is attached to and made a part of this Notice of Reasons.

**EXECUTED** on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2004.



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JOHN L. WINN, as  
Commissioner of Education  
State of Florida