



Before the Education Practices Commission of the State of Florida

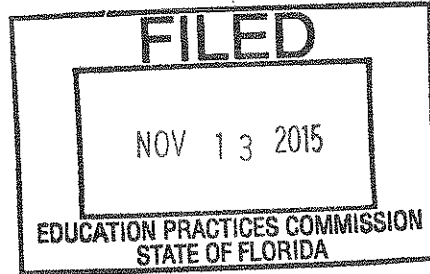
PAM STEWART as the
Commissioner of Education,

Petitioner,

vs.

WILLIAM J. RATTERMAN,

Respondent.



EPC CASE N^o: 15-0232-RT
Index N^o: **15-338-FOI**
PPS N^o: 145-0384

Final Order

Respondent, William J. Ratterman, holds Florida educator's certificate no. 371002. Petitioner has filed an Administrative Complaint seeking suspension, revocation, permanent revocation or other disciplinary action against the certificate. A copy of the Administrative Complaint is attached to and made a part of this Order.

This cause came before a teacher panel of the Education Practices Commission on September 17, 2015, in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Respondent has chosen not to dispute the allegations of the Administrative Complaint and has requested an informal hearing to present evidence and testimony in mitigation. Respondent was present.

Paragraphs 1 through 3 of the Administrative Complaint were adopted by the Education Practices Commission as its findings of fact. Count 1 of the Administrative Complaint was adopted by the Education Practices Commission as its conclusions of law.

Upon consideration, it is ORDERED that:

1. Respondent is hereby issued a letter of reprimand.
2. Upon employment in any public or private position requiring a Florida educator's certificate, Respondent shall be placed on 1 employment year 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 Respondent's 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 all assigned duties in a competent, professional manner.
 - F. Bear all costs of complying with the terms of a final order entered by the Commission.
3. Respondent is assessed an administrative fine of \$750.00 to be paid within the first year of probation.

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

DONE AND ORDERED, this 30th day of **October**, 2015.



MARK S. STRAUSS, Presiding Officer

COPIES FURNISHED TO:

Office of Professional Practices
Services

Bureau of Educator Certification

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

Lee Ann Gustafson
Assistant Attorney General

Recovery Network Program
for Educators

Probation Office

Claudia Llado, Clerk
Division of Administrative Hearings

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 William J. Ratterman, [REDACTED] Merritt Island, Florida 32953 by Certified U.S. Mail and by electronic mail to Bonnie Wilmot, Deputy General Counsel, Suite 1232, Turlington Building, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400 this **13th** day of **November**, 2015.



Gretchen Kelley Brantley, Clerk
Education Practices Commission

STATE OF FLORIDA
EDUCATION PRACTICES COMMISSION

PAM STEWART, as
Commissioner of Education,

Petitioner,

vs.

CASE NO. 145-0384

WILLIAM J. RATTERMAN,

Respondent.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

Petitioner, Pam Stewart, as Commissioner of Education, files this Administrative Complaint against WILLIAM J. RATTERMAN. The Petitioner seeks the appropriate disciplinary sanction of the Respondent's educator's certificate pursuant to Sections 1012.315, 1012.795, and 1012.796, Florida Statutes, and pursuant to Rule 6A-10.081, Florida Administrative Code, Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession in Florida, said sanctions specifically set forth in Sections 1012.795(1) and 1012.796(7), Florida Statutes.

The Petitioner alleges:

JURISDICTION

1. The Respondent holds Florida Educator's Certificate 371002, covering the areas of Social Science and Driver Education, which is valid through June 30, 2015.
2. At all times pertinent hereto, the Respondent was employed as a History Teacher at Johnson Middle School in the Brevard County School District.

MATERIAL ALLEGATIONS

3. On or about June 26, 2014, Respondent became engaged in an argument with his live-in girlfriend. As a result of the argument, Respondent was arrested and charged with Battery. On or about September 8, 2014, Respondent pled nolo contendere to and the Court adjudicated him guilty of the lesser offense of Breach of Peace Disorderly Conduct.

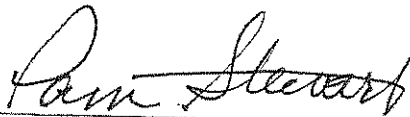
The Petitioner charges:

STATUTE VIOLATIONS

COUNT 1: The Respondent is in violation of Section 1012.795(1)(f), Florida Statutes, in that Respondent has been convicted or found guilty of, or entered a plea of guilty to, regardless of adjudication of guilt, a misdemeanor, felony, or any other criminal charge, other than a minor traffic violation.

WHEREFORE, based on the reasons set forth herein and in accordance with the Explanation of Rights and Election of Rights forms attached to and made a part of this Administrative Complaint, Petitioner respectfully recommends that the Education Practices Commission impose an appropriate sanction against the Respondent's educator's certificate pursuant to the authority provided in Sections 1012.795(1) and 1012.796(7), Florida Statutes. The sanctions imposed by the Education Practices Commission may include, but are not limited to, any one or a combination of the following: issuing the Respondent a written reprimand; placing the Respondent on probation for any period of time; restricting the Respondent's authorized scope of practice; assessing the Respondent an administrative fine; directing the Respondent to enroll in the Recovery Network Program; suspending the Respondent's educator's certificate for a period of time not to exceed five years; revoking the Respondent's educator's certificate for a period of time up to 10 years or permanently; determining the Respondent to be ineligible for certification; or barring the Respondent from reapplying for an educator's certificate for a period of time up to 10 years or permanently.

EXECUTED on this 10th day of April, 2015.



PAM STEWART, as
Commissioner of Education
State of Florida



EDUCATION PRACTICES COMMISSION
STATE OF FLORIDA

GRETCHEN KELLEY BRANTLEY
Executive Director

DAVID R. THOMPSON
Chairperson

LEE ANN GUSTAFSON
Counsel

CHRISTIE GOLD
Co-Chairperson

October 30, 2015

William Ratterman

Merritt Island, Florida 32953

Re: Pam Stewart vs. William Ratterman
EPC No.: 15-0232-RT; DOE No.: 371002

Dear Mr. Ratterman:

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 Administrative Complaint 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Strauss".

Mark Strauss
Presiding Officer