



# Before the Education Practices Commission of the State of Florida



PAM STEWART as the  
Commissioner of Education,

Petitioner,

vs.

PAUL SCOTT CARLSON,

Respondent.

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EPC CASE N<sup>o</sup>: 18-0121-RT

Index N<sup>o</sup>: 19-007-FOI

PPS N<sup>o</sup>: 167-2582

Certificate No.: 749465

## Final Order

This matter appeared before the Education Practices Commission (“Commission”) at a duly-noticed public meeting on December 13, 2018 in Tallahassee, Florida, for a hearing not involving disputed issues of material fact pursuant to Respondent’s Election of Rights requesting a hearing pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes. Petitioner has filed an Administrative Complaint seeking disciplinary action against the Respondent. A copy of the Administrative Complaint is attached to and made a part of this Final Order. Respondent was present and represented by counsel.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

Therefore, the Commission adopts as its finding of facts the facts alleged in the

Administrative Complaint.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based upon the Findings of Fact, the Commission concludes the Respondent has violated Section 1012.795(1)(j), Florida Statutes.

The Commission is empowered by Sections 1012.795(1) and 1012.796(7), Florida Statutes, to impose a penalty against the Respondent.

Therefore, it is ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's Florida educator's certificate is hereby suspended from January 8, 2019, to December 31, 2019.

2. Respondent is assessed an administrative fine of \$750.00 to be paid within the first year of probation.

3. Upon employment in any public or private position requiring a Florida educator's certificate, Respondent shall be placed on 3 employment years of probation with the conditions that during that period, (s)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.

G. Be prohibited from transporting minor students in or on motor vehicles during the probationary period.


4. As part of the Recovery Network Program (RNP), Respondent shall:

Submit to a Substance Abuse Evaluation relating to the issues cited in the Administrative Complaint/Notice of Reasons as determined by the RNP and conducted by an RNP approved licensed provider and undergo any counseling or treatment as may be prescribed by said professional. If, to fulfill this requirement, Respondent must now engage in such counseling, have the professional submit quarterly reports to the RNP. Respondent shall provide the RNP written verification from the treatment provider(s) of successful completion of the evaluation within sixty (60) days of issuance of the Final Order OR within sixty (60) days of the initial date of employment in a position requiring a Florida educator's certificate, whichever occurs later.

If Respondent has undergone evaluation(s) and treatment and/or counseling after the incident(s) alleged in the Administrative Complaint/Notice of Reasons, the evaluation(s) and treatment and/or counseling may be used in lieu of the evaluations(s) and treatment and/or counseling, if acceptable to the RNP.

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

DONE AND ORDERED, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019.

  
CHRISTIE GOLD, Presiding Officer

COPIES FURNISHED TO:

Office of Professional Practices  
Services

Bureau of Educator Certification

Superintendent  
Duval County Schools  
1701 Prudential Dr.  
Jacksonville, FL 32207-8182

Professional Standards  
Duval County Schools  
1701 Prudential Dr.  
Jacksonville, FL 32207-8182

Lawrence Harris  
Assistant Attorney General

Claudia Llado, Clerk  
Division of Administrative Hearings

Probation

Recovery Network Program

**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 Paul Scott Carlson, [REDACTED], Jacksonville, FL 32257 and Stephanie Schaap, Esq., Duval Teachers Union, 1601 Atlantic Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32207 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 8<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019.



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Lisa Forbess, Clerk  
Education Practices Commission

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
EDUCATION PRACTICES COMMISSION**

**PAM STEWART, as  
Commissioner of Education,**

**Petitioner,**

**vs.**

**CASE NO. 167-2582**

**PAUL SCOTT CARLSON,**

**Respondent.**

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**ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT**

Petitioner, Pam Stewart, as Commissioner of Education, files this Administrative Complaint against PAUL SCOTT CARLSON. 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 749465, covering the area of Mathematics, which is valid through June 30, 2022.
2. At all times pertinent hereto, the Respondent was employed as a Mathematics Teacher at Robert E. Lee High School in the Duval County School District.

**MATERIAL ALLEGATIONS**

3. On or about October 28, 2016, Respondent confronted [REDACTED] a 17 year old male student, who was out of his seat. Respondent reached out and grabbed [REDACTED]'s necklace and refused to release it until it broke.

4. [REDACTED]

The Petitioner charges:

**STATUTE VIOLATIONS**

**COUNT 1:** The Respondent is in violation of section 1012.795(1)(j), Florida Statutes, in that Respondent has violated the Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession prescribed by State Board of Education rules.

**RULE VIOLATIONS**

**COUNT 2:** The allegations of misconduct set forth herein are in violation of Rule 6A-10.081(2)(a)1, Florida Administrative Code, in that Respondent has failed to make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions harmful to learning and/or to the student's mental health and/or physical health and/or safety.

**COUNT 3:** The allegations of misconduct set forth herein are in violation of Rule 6A-10.081(2)(a)5, Florida Administrative Code, in that Respondent has intentionally exposed a student to unnecessary embarrassment or disparagement.

**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 26th day of July, 2017.



PAM STEWART, as  
Commissioner of Education  
State of Florida