

IN THE MATTER OF : NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
THE CERTIFICATE OF : STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS
DAVID C. CHADWICK : ORDER OF REVOCATION
_____ : DOCKET NO: 464-04/98-155

At its meeting of April 2, 1998, the State Board of Examiners reviewed information received from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Education indicating that on February 28, 1997, David Chadwick had pled guilty in the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas-Criminal Division on charges of involuntary deviate sexual intercourse and endangering the welfare of children. As a result of such conviction, Respondent was sentenced to no less than one year and no more than three years in county prison. Chadwick had also surrendered his Pennsylvania Teacher of English certificate.

On January 10, 1997, Chadwick also attempted to surrender his New Jersey Teacher of English certificate by mail. On February 4, 1997, the Secretary of the State Board of Examiners requested that Chadwick articulate in writing his reasons for the surrender of his certificate. He did not reply to the letter. Upon review of the above-mentioned information, at its April 1998 meeting the State Board of Examiners voted to issue an Order to Show Cause to Chadwick.

The Order to Show Cause was mailed to Respondent at Bucks County Prison by regular and certified mail on May 12, 1998. Neither mailing was returned. The Order provided that if Respondent desired to file an Answer to the Order such Answer must be filed within twenty (20) days. Chadwick did not file an Answer to the Order to Show Cause.

Since Chadwick failed to respond to the Order to Show Cause, the State Board of Examiners determines that the charges in the Order are admitted for purposes of the hearing process. The issue before the State Board of Examiners in this matter, therefore, is to determine

whether Chadwick's criminal conviction and incarceration in Pennsylvania presents just cause to act against his New Jersey certificate pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:11-3.6(a)2. We find that it does.

A teaching certificate confers upon an individual a trust that should be inviolate: the care and custody of school children. Tenure Hearing of Sammons, 1972 S.L.D. 302, 321. Chadwick's destruction of that trust in so heinous a manner leaves no doubt that he is unfit to remain in the classroom. Tenure of Blasco, OAL Dkt. EDU 3842-79 (July 15, 1980), mod. Comm'r of Ed. (August 28, 1980), mod. St. Bd. of Ed. (Feb. 4, 1981). Moreover, he should no longer have access to children as a teacher even after his incarceration ends. The surrender of his Pennsylvania teaching certificate ensures that there. Only revocation will provide such protection here.

Accordingly, it is therefore ORDERED that David C. Chadwick's Teacher of English certificate be revoked on this 24th day of September 1998. It is further ORDERED that Chadwick return his certificate to the Secretary of the State Board of Examiners, Office of Licensing, CN 500, Trenton, NJ 08625-0500 within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this letter.

Secretary
State Board of Examiners

Date of Mailing: November 6, 1998

Appeals may be made to the State Board of Education pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-28.

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