

**BEFORE THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In the Matter of  
the License of  
Michael Friess

20-PPC-12

**FINAL ORDER**

NOW, on this 8th day of September 2020, the above-captioned matter comes for consideration by the Kansas State Board of Education (Board). Appearing for the Board are Chairwoman, Kathy Busch, and members, Jean Clifford, Michelle Dombrosky, Deena Horst, Ben Jones, Jim McNiece, Ann Mah, Jim Porter, Steve Roberts and Janet Waugh.

WHEREUPON the Professional Practices Commission (Commission) considered the matter on August 3, 2020. Micheal Friess did not appear. The Kansas State Department of Education appeared through its attorney, Scott Gordon. After reviewing the evidence, the Commission voted 9 – 0, to recommend the Board revoke Michael Friess' professional teaching license.

WHEREUPON the Board reviewed the Commission's Initial Order and after considering the presentation by Linda Sieck, Commission Chair, who was available to answer the Board's questions and being otherwise duly advised in the premises, the Board adopted the Commission's findings of fact and conclusions of law by a vote of 10 – 0.

All findings set forth in the Commission's Initial Order attached hereto are incorporated by reference and made a part of this Final Order as though fully set forth at length herein.

IT IS THEREFORE CONCLUDED by the Kansas State Board of Education that Michael Friess' professional teaching license is revoked.

This Final Order is made and entered this 8th day of September 2020.

Kansas State Board of Education



BY: Kathy Busch, Chairwoman  
Signed September 22, 2020

## NOTICE TO LICENSEE/APPLICANT

This is a Final Order and is effective upon service.

To request reconsideration of this order, you must file a Petition for Reconsideration with the Secretary to the State Board of Education, at the address below, within 15 days after service of this Final Order. The Petition must state the specific grounds upon which relief is requested.

To request a stay of effectiveness of this order, you must file a Petition for Stay with the Secretary to the State Board of Education at the address below. A petition can be filed until the time which a petition for judicial review would no longer be timely.

To seek judicial review of a Final Order, you must file a petition in the District Court as authorized by K.S.A. 77-601, *et seq.* within 30 days following the service of the Final Order. Filing a Petition for Reconsideration is not a prerequisite for seeking judicial review. A copy of any Petition for Judicial Review must be served upon the Secretary to the State Board of Education at the address below.

Peggy Hill  
Secretary, Kansas State Board of Education  
Landon State Office Building  
900 SW Jackson Ave. Suite 600N  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

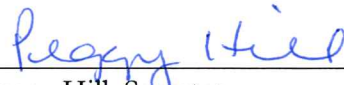
## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 22nd day of September 2020, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing was mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, to:

Michael Friess  
1043 N Curtis  
Wichita, KS 67212

And via interoffice mail to:

R. Scott Gordon  
Kansas State Department of Education  
900 SW Jackson Street, Ste. 102  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

  
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Peggy Hill, Secretary  
Kansas State Board of Education

**BEFORE THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION**

In the Matter of  
the License of  
Michael Friess

20-PPC-12

**INITIAL ORDER**

The above-captioned case comes on for hearing before the Professional Practices Commissioner (Commission) of the Kansas State Board of Education (State Board) upon the Complaint filed by the Kansas State Department of Education seeking revocation of Michael Friess' [Licensee] Emergency Substitute Teaching license.

The hearing on this matter was held on August 3, 2020. Appearing for the Commission were chairperson, Sylvia Ramirez, and members, William Anderson, Aaron Edwards, Jennifer Holt, Nathan Reed, Eric Filippi, Caroline Spaulding, Kimberly Gilman, and Stan Ruff. The KSDE appeared by and through its attorney, R. Scott Gordon. Licensee did not appear.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Licensee holds a emergency substitute teaching license issued by the Kansas State Board of Education.
2. The Kansas State Department of Education alleges that was convicted of 4 counts of misdemeanor theft wherein he was ordered to pay \$13,814.77 in restitution to his 7 victims.
3. The Kansas State Department of Education mailed a copy of the Complaint via certified mail to Licensee at his last known address. Licensee did not request a hearing nor did he submit an Answer to the Complaint.

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## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Kansas State Board of Education (State Board) is responsible for the general supervision of Kansas education, including the certification and licensure of teachers. Kan. Const., Art. VI and K.S.A. 72-255.
2. In Kansas, teaching and school administration are professions with all the similar rights, responsibilities, and privileges accorded other legally recognized professions. K.S.A. 72-2308. An educator is a role model. Hainline v. Bond, 250 Kan. 217, 224 (1992).
3. The Commission investigates and conduct hearings pertaining to allegations of educator misconduct. K.S.A. 72-2314; K.A.R. 91-22-1a *et seq.*
4. One of the obvious goals of education is to “instill respect for the law.” Hainline at 224.
5. Licensee’s conduct is inconsistent with the commonly-held perceptions and expectations of a member of the teaching profession. Such conduct violates the public trust and confidence placed in members of the profession. Licensee’s conduct demonstrates a lack of fitness to perform the duties and responsibilities of a member of the teaching and school administration professions and is sufficient and just cause to revoke his license.

THEREFORE the Professional Practices Commission, by vote of 9-0, recommends the Kansas State Board of Education revoke the professional teaching license of the Licensee based on the uncontested allegations of misconduct, for his criminal convictions and for not requesting a hearing or submitting an answer in response to the Complaint.

This Initial Order is made and entered this \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sylvia Ramirez, Chairman  
Order signed on August 13, 2020.

## NOTICE TO LICENSEE

This Order is not a Final Order and is required to be reviewed by the Kansas State Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act. The State Board will review all issues. Notice of review with the specific date and time will be provided to the parties within 15 days of the review.

You may submit to the State Board for its consideration as part of its review of the Initial Order a written brief citing legal authority as to why the above recommendation should not be accepted. You must file the brief with the State Board Secretary at the address indicated below within ten calendar days after service of the Initial Order for transmittal to the State Board. You must also make any request for oral argument at that time.

Peggy Hill  
Secretary, Kansas State Board of Education  
900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 600  
Topeka, KS 66612

Response briefs are due within ten calendar days after service of the legal brief upon the opposing party. Any reply brief is due five calendar days after service of any response brief upon the opposing party. Any response or reply briefs must also be filed with the State Board Secretary at the address indicated above.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 19th day of August, 2020, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing was filed with the Secretary for the Kansas State Board of Education and one (1) copy was mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, to:

Michael Friess  
1043 N. Curtis  
Wichita, KS 67212

And via interoffice mail to:

R. Scott Gordon  
Kansas State Department of Education  
900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 102  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

*Candi Brown*

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Candi Brown  
Secretary, Professional Practices Commission