

BEFORE THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of
the Application of
Kristopher Creten

Case No. 21-PPC-10

FINAL ORDER

NOW, on this 10th day of August, 2021, the above-captioned matter comes for consideration by the Kansas State Board of Education (Board). Appearing for the Board are Chairman, Jim Porter and members, Betty Arnold, Jean Clifford, Michelle Dombrosky, Melanie Haas, Deena Horst, Ben Jones, Jim McNiece, Ann Mah and Janet Waugh.

WHEREUPON the Professional Practices Commission (Commission) considered the matter on June 18, 2021¹. Kristopher Creten did not appear. The Kansas State Department of Education appeared through its attorney, R. Scott Gordon. After reviewing the evidence, the Commission voted **6 – 0**, to recommend the Board deny Kristopher Creten's application for an emergency substitute teaching license.

WHEREUPON the Board reviewed the Commission's Initial Order and after considering the presentation by Jennifer Holt, 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 Kristopher Creten's application for an emergency substitute teaching license is denied.

This Final Order is made and entered this 10th day of August 2021.

Kansas State Board of Education



BY: Jim Porter, Chairman
Signed September 30, 2021

¹ Although the Initial Order says the date of the hearing was on June 10, 2021, the actual meeting of the Professional Practices Commission was on June 18, 2021.

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

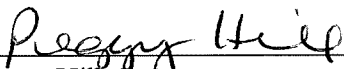
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 30th day of September 2021, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing was mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, to:

Kristopher Creten
15625 Klamm St.
Basehor, KS 66007

And via interoffice mail to:

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



Peggy Hill, Secretary
Kansas State Board of Education

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

In the Matter of
the Application of
Kristopher Creten

21-PPC-10

INITIAL ORDER

The above-captioned case comes on for hearing before the Professional Practices Commission (“Commission”) of the Kansas State Board of Education (“State Board”) upon application for a license submitted by Kristopher Creten (“Applicant”).

The hearing on this matter was held on June 10, 2021. Appearing for the Commission were chairperson, Jennifer Holt, and members, Aaron Edwards, Eric Filippi, Kimberly Gilman, Stan Ruff, and Caroline Spaulding. The KSDE appeared by and through its attorney, General Counsel, R. Scott Gordon. The Applicant did not appear.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Applicant applied for an emergency substitute teaching license.
2. Applicant has never been licensed by the Kansas State Board of Education but is currently licensed by the Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board. Applicant has been so licensed since 2014.
3. While licensed by the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board, Applicant has been disciplined at least twice:
 - a. In 2015, Licensee was disciplined for violating statutes and regulations pertaining to professional misconduct. Specifically, Licensee was disciplined for engaging in personal, romantic relationship with one of his clients.
 - b. In 2019, Licensee was disciplined for violating statutes and regulations pertaining to professional misconduct. Specifically, Licensee was disciplined for:
 - i. Providing financial assistance to a client.
 - ii. Providing unapproved transportation to a female client to court and then back to his personal residence.
 - iii. Having a client inside his personal residence for over two hours.
 - iv. Resigning from his place of employment without reporting that resignation as required by the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board.
4. The Kansas State Department of Education mailed a copy of the Complaint via certified mail to Applicant’s last known address.

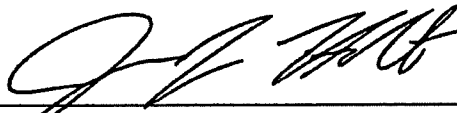
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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. The State Board may deny a license for misconduct or other just cause including actions which cause any professional license to be disciplined. See K.A.R. 91-22-1a.
3. One of the obvious goals of education is to "instill respect for the law." Hainline v. Bond, 250 Kan. 217 (1992). An educator is a role model. Hainline at 224.
4. Teaching and school administration are professions with all the similar rights, responsibilities and privileges accorded other legally recognized professions. K.S.A. 72-2308.
5. Applicant'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. Applicant'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 deny his application for license.

THEREFORE the Professional Practices Commission, by unanimous vote, recommends the Kansas State Board of Education deny the application for a teaching license based on misconduct for which he was disciplined by another state licensing agency and for failure to participate in its proceedings.

This Initial Order is made and entered this July, 2021.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION



Jennifer Holt, Chairperson
Order signed on July 13, 2021.

NOTICE TO APPLICANT

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.

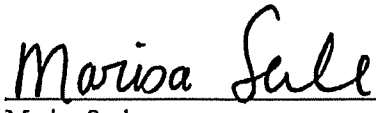
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 15 day of July, 2021, 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:

Kristopher Creten
15625 Klamm St.
Basehor, KS 66007

And via interoffice mail to:

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



Marisa Seele
Secretary, Professional Practices Commission