



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

DR. TERRY BERGESON OLD CAPITOL BUILDING • PO BOX 47200 • OLYMPIA WA 98504-7200 • <http://www.k12.wa.us>

Terry Bergeson, certify that on 10/17/02, I mailed a copy of this document, certified & postage prepaid, to all parties or their counsel of record. I certify under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the state of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION)
APPLICATION OF)
ANDREW HASSMAN)
DOB: [REDACTED]/1954)

OPP No. A01-08-0495
DENIAL ORDER
FOR CERTIFICATION

COMES NOW the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), under the authority granted by the laws of the state of Washington, having reviewed the file of the above-referenced case, and having considered the entire evidence contained therein, does hereby deny the education application of ANDREW HASSMAN based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Andrew Hassman applied for a Washington Education Certificate on July 20, 2001. On the Character and Fitness Supplement, a part of the application process, Mr. Hassman answered "yes" to questions 1-3 of Section III (Criminal History). He disclosed a March 1997 arrest and subsequent conviction for a misdemeanor assault.

2. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) results, a requirement for certification, revealed the following arrests:

- A. February 3, 1982: Rec. Stolen Property and Uttering Check, no disposition.
- B. November 18, 1991: Criminal Mischief 2nd Degree, dismissed.
- C. April 21, 1992: Assault in the 4th degree (dismissed) and Harassment, guilty, \$150 fine 1 year probation (did not disclose).
- D. September 28, 1993: Failure to appear 2nd Degree Assault/Harassment: No complaint filed (did not disclose).
- E. March 28, 1997: Assault with Intent to Cause Physical Injury, guilty, probation for 3 years.
- F. November 1, 2000: Failure to Appear 2nd Degree, no disposition (did not disclose).
- G. November 7, 2000: Interfering with Judicial Proceeding, no disposition (did not disclose).

3. During a subsequent conversation with the Office of Professional Practices' manager, Mr. Hassman disclosed a 2nd degree assault charge that was made against him during a situation with his wife. In his follow-up written explanation, Mr. Hassman indicated this occurred in August 2001, though the arrest actually occurred in August 1998. When prompted to explain his failure to disclose this arrest, Mr. Hassman indicated, "It was a mistake" and "I am sorry," citing confusion while filling out multiple employment applications.

Mr. Hassman was charged and entered a Request for Waiver of Appearance and Authorization to Enter Plea and be Sentenced in Abstentia to the charge Battery Domestic Violence, a misdemeanor.

4. Mr. Hassman answered "no" to Question 4. section II, of the Character and Fitness Supplement which asks: "Have you ever had any adverse action taken on any certificate or license (Adverse action includes letters of warning, reprimands, suspensions, revocations, voluntary surrenders, or voidance)?"

5. In March 1998, Mr. Hassman was issued a Nevada Educational Certificate with the stipulation that Mr. Hassman not have any convictions of physical abuse.

6. In October 1998, the Nevada Department of Education sent Mr. Hassman a letter indicating they were aware of his August 1998 arrest for domestic abuse.

In addition, the Nevada Department of Education alleged falsification of his Nevada Educational Certificate application when Mr. Hassman indicated, "I am not subject to a court order for the support of a child," a question on his Nevada application form. Mr. Hassman was under a court order from the state of Tennessee.

On August 27, 1999, the Nevada Department of Education invalidated Mr. Hassman's Educational Certificate.

7. On September 20, 2001, the Office of Professional Practices received information from the Tennessee Office of Child Support Enforcement that Mr. Hassman was delinquent in his child support obligation and that such delinquency has caused the State of Tennessee to have to provide financial assistance to the family.

8. Good moral character and personal fitness is a requirement to attain a Washington education certificate.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Andrew Hassman and over the subject matter of this action.

2. Andrew Hassman has failed to provide clear and convincing evidence of good moral character or personal fitness to receive a Washington education certificate, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 180-86-170 (copy enclosed).

3. Andrew Hassman has violated WAC 180-87 and RCW 28A.410.090 (copies enclosed).


ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the application for certification of Andrew Hassman is denied.

This order may be appealed within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of receipt, pursuant to Chapter 180-86 WAC, copy enclosed.

DATED this 17th day of June, 2002.

DR. TERRY BERGESON
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington

By: 
Michael L. Bigelow
Associate Superintendent
Budget and School Business Services