



# SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION	)	
CERTIFICATE OF	)	OPP No. D03-08-078
	)	
	)	ORDER OF
Stephen Kaufman	)	PERMANENT REVOCATION
Certificate No. 393035A	)	
	)	

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 permanently revoke the Washington Education Certificate, No. 393035A of Stephen Kaufman, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Stephen Kaufman was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 393035A, on November 26, 2001. That certificate expired on June 30, 2004.
2. Stephen Kaufman was employed by the North Thurston School District.
3. On August 11, 2003, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter alleging a lack of good moral character or personal fitness, or a violation of the

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Code of Professional Conduct, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 180-87, by Stephen Kaufman.

4. On June 24, 2002, Stephen Kaufman received a Letter of Reprimand from Assistant Superintendent Dr. Jim Rydland for installing unauthorized software on a School District computer, and for connecting a personal computer to the District's network.

5. In July 2002, Stephen Kaufman e-mailed a female student, inviting her and another female student to a party at his home. Stephen Kaufman said that the party was a surprise for his wife's birthday, which was in June.

6. On December 4, 2002, Stephen Kaufman was placed on administrative leave by the North Thurston School District.

7. On May 7, 2003, Stephen Kaufman was served with a no-renewal of contract notice by the North Thurston School District.

8. In April, 2004, Stephen Kaufman was found guilty of the second-degree murder and two counts of third-degree child rape of a fifteen-year-old girl. Stephen Kaufman had persuaded the girl to visit him over the internet.

9. In July, 2004, Stephen Kaufman was sentenced to 285 months of confinement for these crimes.

10. Good moral character and personal fitness is a continuing requirement to maintain a Washington Education Certificate.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

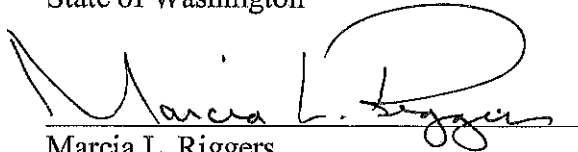
1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Stephen Kaufman and over the subject matter of this action.
2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence, that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 393035A, of Stephen Kaufman, should be permanently revoked as provided for in RCW 28A.410.090.
3. Stephen Kaufman has violated RCW 28A.410.090, WAC 180-86-013, and WAC 180-86-014.

**ORDER**

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 393035A, of Stephen Kaufman be permanently revoked.

DATED This 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2004

DR. TERRY BERGESON  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
State of Washington



Marcia L. Riggers  
Assistant Superintendent  
Student Support and Operations