



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. D07-05-041

Denise Bill)
Certificate No. 272791E)

AGREED ORDER
OF SUSPENSION

COMES NOW the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 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 stipulate by and between the Office of Professional Practices (OPP), Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), and Denise Bill, that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 272791E, of Denise Bill, shall be suspended, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDING OF FACTS

1. Denise Bill was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 272791E, on July 1, 1986. That certificate currently remains valid.
2. Denise Bill was employed by the Auburn School District.

DENISE BILL
AGREED ORDER OF SUSPENSION

3. On May 3, 2007, 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 Code of Professional Conduct, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 181-87, by Denise Bill.

4. From July 2003 to May 2006, Denise Bill and another person took an estimated \$64,000 from the Washington State Indian Education Association (WSIEA). Denise Bill had been the Chair of the WSIEA Board during this time period.

5. In June of 2006, Denise Bill met with the WSIEA Board and stated that she and another person had taken monies from the association. Denise Bill told Board members that she had used some of the monies for gambling activity.

6. On July 27, 2006, Sally Brownfield, current Chair of the WSIEA, reported to Lacey Police Department the loss of funds from July 2003 to May 2006; Lacey Police Department report #2006-3724.

7. On March 6, 2007, an Information and Certification of Probable Cause were filed in Thurston County Superior Court charging Denise Bill with Theft in the First Degree, Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 9A.56.030; Thurston County Superior Court Cause #07-1-00430-4.

8. On April 10, 2007, an Amended Information and Certification of Probable Cause were filed in Thurston County Superior Court charging Denise Bill with Theft in the First Degree, Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 9A.56.030; Thurston County Superior Court Cause #07-1-00430-4.

9. On June 11, 2007, Denise Bill signed a Settlement Agreement with the Auburn School District. In the Agreement, Denise Bill resigned her employment with the District effective June 29, 2007.

10. On August 29, 2007, A Stipulation and Order for Continuance of Trial Re: Diversion was filed in Thurston County Superior Court for Cause #07-1-00430-4. As part of the Stipulation and Order, Denise Bill was referred to the "Friendship" Diversion Program and the matter was continued for so long as Denise Bill complied with the conditions of this program.

11. On March 4, 2008, Denise Bill satisfied the restitution requirement and fulfilled her financial obligations for the "Friendship" Diversion Program.

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

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CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Denise Bill and over the subject matter of this action.

2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence, that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 272791E, of Denise Bill, should be suspended as provided for in WAC 181-86-070.

3. Denise Bill has violated RCW 28A.410.090, WAC 181-86-013, and/or WAC 180-86-014..

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ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered and agreed that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 272791E, of Denise Bill, be suspended for twenty-four (24) months from the date of entry of this Order.

REINSTATEMENT will require successful completion of: (1) the terms of the Thurston County Friendship Diversion Services program, for Thurston County Superior Court Cause # 07-1-00430-4; (2) dismissal of felony charges related to Thurston County Superior Court Cause #07-1-00430-4; (3) successful completion of the Celebrate Recovery gambling addiction program; (4) if Denise Bill changes gambling addiction program providers, the program provider will be mutually agreed upon by OPP and Denise Bill; (5) that Denise Bill sign an authorization form allowing OPP to contact her gambling addiction program provider and that OPP is allowed access to view Denise Bill's program records; (6) the submission of a new application for certification, to be provided by OPP; (7) a fingerprint-based background check of Denise Bill through the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP) returning with no criminal convictions that are listed in WAC 181-86-013, RCW 28A.410.090, and/or any felony convictions.


REINSTATEMENT will also require that Denise Bill must take appropriate steps to have conviction/non-conviction data relating to Thurston County Superior Court Cause #07-1-00430-4 deleted or expunged from FBI and/or WSP criminal history records database/index. OSPI will stipulate that Washington Education Certificate, No. 272791E, of Denise Bill, shall be reinstated upon receiving documentation that (1) Thurston County Superior Court has granted or denied Denise Bill's motion to expunge the records and, (2) if appropriate, that Washington State Patrol has granted or denied Denise Bill's request to have non-conviction data deleted from her criminal history records.


Denise Bill shall be responsible for the costs of complying with the foregoing conditions. She shall also be responsible for providing verification/documentation of the foregoing conditions.


DATED This 6th day of October, 2008.

DR. TERRY BERGESON
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington

Stipulated to and approved
For entry:


Martin Mueller
Assistant Superintendent
Student Support


Denise Bill, Respondent


David H. Smith, Attorney for Respondent
WSBA # 10721