



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

RANDY I. DORN 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. D11-10-055
)	
Ny'Ika Long)	AGREED ORDER
Certificate No. 359228D)	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 Ny'Ika Long, that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 359228D, of Ny'Ika Long, shall be suspended, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Ny'Ika Long was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 359228D, on March 4, 1998. That certificate currently remains valid.
2. Ny'Ika Long was employed by the Seattle Public Schools from December 1, 2007 to May of 2012.

NY'IKA LONG
 AGREED ORDER OF SUSPENSION



3. On October 6, 2011, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the superintendent of the Seattle Public Schools 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 Ny'Ika Long.

4. During the 2000-2001 school year, Ny'Ika Long was employed by the Clover Park School District as a P.E. teacher and Head Football Coach at Clover Park High School.

5. On December 6, 2000, Ny'Ika Long resigned as Head Football Coach at Clover Park High School after admitting to forging the signature of Mr. Stephens and another coach on their school district extra-curricular contracts. (Ny'Ika Long was given an option of resigning as Clover Park High School head football coach or being non-renewed from the extra-curricular position.)

6. On April 17, 2002, Ny'Ika Long resigned his employment as P.E. teacher with the Clover Park School District, effective June 30, 2002, in order to begin employment with the Renton School District. Ny'Ika Long was employed at Lindbergh High School, Renton School District, from the 2002-2003 school year until the 2006-2007 school year.

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7. On February 14, 2006, Ny'Ika Long signed an Application for Coaching Position with the Highline School District. On that application, Ny'Ika Long intentionally and falsely answered 'No' to the question of "Have you ever resigned or otherwise separated from any employment?" On another Highline School District Applicant and Volunteer Disclosure Form, submitted with the Application for Coaching Position and signed the same day, Ny'Ika Long intentionally and falsely answered 'No' to the question of "Have you ever resigned or otherwise left employment while allegations of misconduct on your part were pending or under investigation?"

8. Ny'Ika Long was employed by the Highline School District at Tyee High School for the 2006-2007 school year as the Tyee High School Athletic Director and Tyee High School Head Football Coach. During October and November of 2006, Ny'Ika Long requested that the Highline Public School payroll department send the paychecks of two of his assistant football coaches, David Massey and Gabriel Ladd, to Tyee High School; rather than mail them to their residences as they had previously requested.

9. Ny'Ika Long took the two checks and without either Mr. Massey's or Mr. Ladd's permission or knowledge forged the signatures of each coach/employee making the paychecks payable to him. Ny'Ika Long cashed them. On December 20, 2006, during the Highline School District investigation, Ny'Ika Long, in an audio recorded interview, admitted that he had not paid the assistant coaches all of their contracted pay because they had not fulfilled their coaching duties and "I was the one who covered for the things they were supposed to do..."

10. On January 12, 2007, Ny'Ika Long was issued a Notice of Probable Cause for Discharge and Termination of Extra-Duty Contract; which he timely appealed. On March 23, 2007, Ny'Ika Long entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Highline School District and resigned his employment effective February 28, 2007.

11. On January 24, 2007, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the superintendent of the Highline School District alleging a lack of good moral character or personal fitness, or a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct, WAC 181-87, by Ny'Ika Long.

12. On February 8, 2007, an Information and Declaration for Determination of Probable Cause were filed in King County Superior Court charging Ny'Ika Long with two (2) counts of Forgery, Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 9A.60.020. On October 1, 2007, an Amended Information and a Statement of Defendant on Plea of Guilty were filed in King County Superior Court. Ny'Ika Long plead to Attempted Forgery, RCW 9A.60.020. As per the Statement of Defendant on Plea of Guilty, Ny'Ika Long agreed to a revocation of Washington Education Certificate No. 359228D. On November 15, 2007, in King County Superior Court, Ny'Ika Long was found guilty by plea and was sentenced; Cause Number 07-1-02186-4 KNT.

13. On November 15, 2007, an Agreed Order of Revocation for the Washington Education Certificate of Ny'Ika Long, Certificate No. 359228D, was issued by OPP; OPP #D07-01-009.

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14. On February 24, 2009, the Washington Education Certificate No. 359228D, of Ny'Ika Long, was reinstated.

15. On an application for Certificated employment with the Seattle Public Schools, signature dated March 15, 2009, Ny'Ika Long intentionally omitted the Clover Park School District as a previous employer.

16. On an application for Certificated employment with the Seattle Public Schools, signature dated September 18, 2009, Ny'Ika Long intentionally failed to list the reason for leaving the employment of the Highline School District.

17. During the 2010-2011 school year, Ny'Ika Long was employed in a certificated position at Cleveland High School, Seattle School District, and as the Head Football Coach for Franklin High School, Seattle School District.

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18. On September 9, 2010, Ny'Ika Long, Head Football Coach for Franklin High School, accessed his Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) online account and began a WIAA required online coaching clinic/workshop. Brian Schnierer, an assistant football coach for Franklin High School, was present with Ny'Ika Long. After a portion of the first of three clinics/workshops was started, Ny'Ika Long instructed Mr. Schnierer to complete the clinics/workshops and print the completion certificates. Ny'Ika Long then left for football practice. After Mr. Schnierer completed the WIAA mandated workshops, Ny'Ika Long submitted the completion certificates, with his name on them, to his athletic director, Joanne Fukuma, to show that he had completed the mandatory WIAA clinics/workshops. On June 2, 2011, during a Seattle Public Schools investigatory meeting, Ny'Ika Long stated that he had completed all the required WIAA online clinics/workshops from home.

19. On August 16, 2011, Ny'Ika Long participated in a Loudermill Hearing with the Seattle Public Schools.

20. On September 30, 2011, Ny'Ika Long was issued a Notice of Probable Cause for Termination; which he timely appealed.

21. On January 7, 2012, Ny'Ika Long signed a Settlement Agreement with the Seattle Public Schools and submitted his resignation; effective March 15, 2012.

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22. On June 5, 2012, Ny'Ika Long submitted an application for education certification with the Arizona Department of Education. On the application, Ny'Ika Long answered 'yes' to the question of having a professional license revoked or suspended but intentionally failed to provide an explanation for the suspension or revocation.

23. In June 2012, Ny'Ika Long submitted an application for employment with the Maya High School in Phoenix, Arizona. Maya High School is a charter school operated by the Leona Group. Ny'Ika Long's signature is dated June 14, 2012. On the Maya High School/Leona Group application, Ny'Ika Long: intentionally failed to list the reason for leaving employment at two (2) schools in the Seattle School District, Cleveland High School and Franklin High School; intentionally failed to identify the school districts that he had worked at, instead referring to the individual schools; intentionally failed to list previous education employment at Clover Park School District, Renton School District, and Highline School District; and intentionally failed to answer the question of "Have you ever been terminated, and/or asked to resign in lieu of termination, from employment".

24. On June 29, 2012, Ny'Ika Long signed a Human Resources agreement with Maya High School. Ny'Ika Long was employed by Maya High School/Leona Group as a classroom teacher and a coach for the 2012-2013 school year.

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25. On September 27, 2012, John Anderson asked Ny'Ika Long about his failure to answer the application for employment question of "Have you ever been terminated, and/or asked to resign in lieu of termination, form employment". Mr. Anderson asked Ny'Ika Long to correctly complete the question on his application for employment with Maya High School and write the date next to his answer. Ny'Ika Long intentionally and falsely answered 'No' to this question and listed the date of September 27, 2012.

26. On October 29, 2012, Ny'Ika Long received a memo from Maya High School administration outlining job performance concerns and placed on an improvement plan. On December 14, 2012, Ny'Ika Long received a written reprimand from Mr. Anderson for leaving students unattended on December 10, 2012 and for failing to follow administrative directives. On January 14, 2013, Ny'Ika Long received a written reprimand for leaving students unattended on more than one occasion.

27. On January 25, 2013, due to his conduct towards the officials at a Maya High School interscholastic basketball game, Ny'Ika Long, Head Coach of Maya High School Boys' Basketball, was ejected from the game. Ny'Ika Long was the only coach for his team and his ejection caused the team to forfeit the game. Again, on February 8, 2103, due to his conduct towards the officials at a Maya High School interscholastic basketball game, Ny'Ika Long, Head Coach of Maya High School Boys' Basketball, was ejected the game. Ny'Ika Long removed his team and the team forfeited the game.

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28. On April 26, 2013, Ny'Ika Long's employment with Maya High School was terminated for unsatisfactory job performance.

29. On May 1, 2013, Ny'Ika Long filed an unemployment insurance claim with the Arizona Department of Economic Security intentionally falsely stating that he had been laid off from employment with Maya High School.

30. On May 1, 2013, Ny'Ika Long participated in an audio-recorded telephone interview with an OPP investigator. At the beginning and at the conclusion of the interview, Ny'Ika Long swore, under penalty of perjury, that the answers he would and did provide were true and correct.

31. Ny'Ika Long, according to his peers at Franklin High School, Lindberg High School Nelson Middle School, Tyee High School, Clover Park High School, and Jesuit High School, he: "is devoted to the success of students"; "has always shown a caring attitude towards students"; "works hard at establishing positive relationships with athletes and their parents"; "has an ability to reach kids"; "puts the kids' needs number one and before all else"; "held his student athletes to the highest academic standard of any coach in our league"; "has the young [athlete's] interest at heart"; and "establishes a rapport with students that allows him to get his message through". These recommendations/comments were all made between 2001 and 2006.

32. In November 2010, Ny'Ika Long received the Seattle Times 33rd Annual "Coach of the Year" award.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Ny'Ika Long and over the subject matter of this action.

2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that the Washington Education Certificate No. 359228D, of Ny'Ika Long, should be suspended for unprofessional conduct and/or lack of good moral character or personal fitness: RCW 28A.410.090, WAC 181-86-070, WAC 181-87-055; WAC 181-87-060; WAC 181-86-013; WAC 181-86-014.

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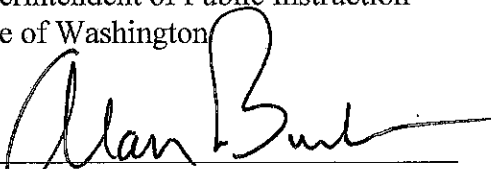
ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered and agreed that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 359228D, of Ny'Ika Long be suspended for three (3) months from the date of entry of this Order.

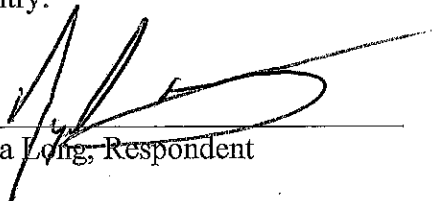
REINSTATEMENT shall require: (1) submission of a new application, including Character and Fitness Supplement, provided by OPP and having Ny'Ika Long's fingerprints be checked by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP); and (2) that if Ny'Ika Long's education certificate expires during the period of suspension, Ny'Ika Long will show that he meets all academic requirements for renewal/reinstatement of the education certificate. Reinstatement shall also be contingent upon Ny'Ika Long's fingerprint background check returning with no criminal convictions that are listed in WAC 181-86-013, RCW 28A.410.090, any felony convictions.

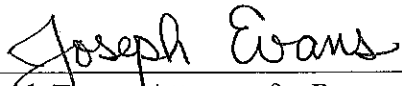
DATED This 28 day of April, 2014.

RANDY I. DORN
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington


Alan Burke, Ed. D.
Deputy Superintendent
K-12 Education

Stipulated to and approved
For entry:


Ny'Ika Long, Respondent


Joseph Evans, Attorney for Respondent
WSBA #29877

NY'IKA LONG
AGREED ORDER OF SUSPENSION