



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

DR. TERRY BERGESON

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I, Rene Davis, certify that on 2/3/99, I mailed a copy of this document, 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)
CERTIFICATE OF)

OPP No. D95-03-037

RANDY JAMES SHERIFF)
Certificate No. 228152E)

PROPOSED ORDER OF)
REVOCATION)

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 propose to revoke the Washington education certificate, No. 228152E, of RANDY JAMES SHERIFF based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Randy James Sheriff was issued a Washington State Continuing Elementary and Secondary Teacher Certificate #228152E on August 31, 1984. That certificate currently remains valid.

2. Randy James Sheriff was employed by the Cle Elum School District, beginning in the 1991 - 92 school year.

3. On or about March 10, 1995, the Superintendent of the Cle Elum School District did appropriately send a letter to the Office of Professional Practices, Superintendent of Public Instruction, alleging a possible violation of the Code of Professional Practices, WAC 180-87.

4. During the 19⁹⁰ - ⁹¹ school year, Randy James Sheriff had a sexual relationship with a female high school student. That relationship occurred while she was a ^{junior} at Port Townsend High School and he was a teacher at Port Townsend High School. The sexual relationship continued into her ^{senior} year, after she transferred to another high school.

5. During the 19⁹⁰ - ⁹¹ school year, Randy James Sheriff did provide marijuana and alcohol to a female high school student.

6. During the 19⁹⁰ - ⁹¹ school year, Randy James Sheriff was instructed by his principal to sever all contact with the female high school student, which he did not do.

7. During the 1993-94 school year, Randy James Sheriff did purchase athletic team clothing without prior approval or knowledge of the school district administration. Such action was in violation of school district policy.

8. During the 1994-95 school year, an inappropriate letter to a female high school student was found and turned in to the school district. That note stated: "... when i (sic) realize that i'm (sic) facing all this without you. . . you are the only person i (sic) want to talk to and it's so hard at school." "i (sic) can't help but think of our potential. I need you to be a friend. i (sic) rely on seeing you. . talking to you . . . caring about you." "No one cares more for you . . . no one." The statement included a cellular phone number which was identified as belonging to Randy James Sheriff. In addition, the handwriting in the letter was recognized as belonging to Randy James Sheriff.

9. During the 19^{94 95} school year, Randy James Sheriff did allow a female high school student to drive his personal car off of school property during school hours without parental or school administration approval. Such action was in violation of school district policy.

10. Randy James Sheriff resigned his position with the Cle Elum School District, at the conclusion of the 1994-95 school year, as part of a settlement agreement.

11. Good moral character and personal fitness is a continuing requirement to maintain a Washington education certificate.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has jurisdiction over RANDY JAMES SHERIFF and over the subject matter of this action.

2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that RANDY JAMES SHERIFF's education certificate should be revoked as provided for in WAC 180-86-075.

3. RANDY JAMES SHERIFF has violated WAC 180-86-013, WAC 180-86-014, WAC 180-87 and RCW 28A.410.090.

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ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby proposed that the Washington education certificate, No. 228152E, of RANDY JAMES SHERIFF be revoked.

A Final Order of Revocation will be issued (30) calendar days from the date of receipt of this order unless RANDY JAMES SHERIFF exercises the right of appeal pursuant to Chapter 180-86 WAC, copy enclosed.

DATED this 3rd day of February, 1999.

DR. TERRY BERGESON
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington

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