#### IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

In the matter of the certificate of:

Case No. 22105

Alexis C. Rodriguez,

STIPULATION

Respondent

#### BACKGROUND

The Professional Standards Commission received an allegation of unethical conduct concerning Alexis C. Rodriguez. Following an investigation, the Executive Committee of the Professional Standards Commission reviewed the information before it and determined that probable cause exists for initiating an administrative action against Alexis Rodriguez's certificate. The Executive Committee has recommended the following Stipulation.

#### STIPULATION

- This is an agreement (Stipulation) between Alexis C. Rodriguez (Ms. Rodriguez)
  and the Executive Committee (the Executive Committee) of the Professional Standards
  Commission (the Commission).
- If Ms. Rodriguez wishes to agree to this Stipulation, she must sign and return this stipulation and any attachments to the Commission by 5:00 p.m. (Mountain Time) on October 29, 2021, unless she has been granted an extension.
- 3. After Ms. Rodriguez and the Executive Committee agree to and sign this Stipulation, the Stipulation must be approved by the Commission, and the Commission must enter the attached consent order, before this Stipulation resolves the matter.
  - 4. A signed copy of this Stipulation may be submitted via mail or fax to:

Professional Standards Commission

650 W. State St. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

P.O. Box 83720

Boise, ID 83720-0027

Fax: (208) 334-2228 (Attn: Professional Standards Commission)

A. STIPULATED FACTS AND LAW

5. The Commission regulates educator certification in Idaho.

6. Ms. Rodriguez holds the following certificate and endorsements issued under the

authority of the Idaho State Board of Education:

a. ABCTE Interim Certificate with All Subjects (K-8), Exceptional Child

Generalist (K-12), and English (6-12) endorsements, all effective September

26, 2019 through August 31, 2022.

7. Ms. Rodriguez was employed by the Salmon School District #291 as a Special

Educator Teacher for the 2020-2021 school year.

8. On Saturday March 27, 2021, Ms. Rodriguez emailed the Special Education

Director of the Salmon School District that she was quitting effective April 8 and that she knew

this was a breach of contract.

9. On Sunday March 28, 2021, Ms. Rodriguez texted the Special Education Director

that she was quitting effective immediately.

10. The Special Education Director called and left her a message, as well as sent her a

text message upon receiving the text message from Ms. Rodriguez that she was quitting

immediately.

11. On March 29, 2021, a certified letter was sent to Ms. Rodriguez that she was

terminated effective March 29, 2021.

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Alexis C. Rodriguez

- 12. The Executive Committee determined that probable cause exists for initiative an administrative action against Ms. Rodriguez for violating the following laws and rule governing educator certification:
  - a. Ms. Rodriguez's conduct or course of conduct willfully violated a principle of the code of ethics that was adopted by the Idaho State Board of education. Idaho Code § 33-1208(1)(j)("Willful violation of any professional code or standard of ethics or conduct, adopted by the state board of education."). Specifically, Ms. Rodriguez violated Code of Ethics Principle VIII Idaho Admin Code r. 08.02.02.076.09)("A professional educator fulfills all terms and obligations detailed in the contract with the local board of educators or education agency for the duration of the contract.").
- 13. Ms. Rodriguez admits that she violated the laws and rules cited in paragraph 12 and acknowledges that there is sufficient evidence to support a finding of a violation of the laws and rule cited in paragraph 12.

## B. STIPULATED DISCIPLINE

- 14. If this Stipulation is approved by the Commission, the following discipline will be imposed by the Commission on Ms. Rodriguez's certificate:
  - 15. Suspend Ms. Rodriguez's certificate for one year beginning on March 29, 2021;
- That Ms. Rodriguez must take one pre-approved PSC ethics course that may not be used for renewal purposes;
- Any costs associated with Ms. Rodriguez's compliance with the terms of this
   Stipulation are her responsibility.

18. During the pendency of this Stipulation Ms. Rodriguez will comply with all laws and rules governing educator certification in Idaho.

#### C. PRESENTATION OF THIS STIPULATION

- 19. Once Ms. Rodriguez signs this Stipulation and timely returns it to the Commission, and the Executive Committee signs this Stipulation, the Deputy Attorney General assigned to the Commission will present this Stipulation to the Commission at the Commission's next business meeting.
  - 20. The Commission may accept, reject, or modify the Stipulation.
- 21. If the Commission modifies this Stipulation, it must receive Ms. Rodriguez's approval on any modification before the Stipulation is effective.

#### D. WAIVER OF RIGHTS

- 22. If this Stipulation is approved by the Commission, Ms. Rodriguez knowingly: intelligently, and voluntarily waives the following rights:
  - a. the right to a hearing;
  - b. the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses;
  - c. the right to present evidence or to call witnesses, or to testify at a hearing;
  - d. the right to reconsideration of the Commission's orders;
  - e. the right to judicial review of the Commission's orders; and
  - f. other rights accorded by the Idaho Administrative Procedure Act, and the law and rules governing teacher certification in the State of Idaho.
- 23. If this Stipulation is approved by the Commission, the Commission may impose discipline upon Ms. Rodriguez's certificate without further process.

24. By signing this Stipulation, Ms. Rodriguez agrees to waive any requirement for a learing under Idaho Code§ 33-1209(3) to be conducted within 90 days of a request for a hearing. This waiver applies to any hearing request made before the Commission ultimately rejects this Stipulation (if it does) or before Ms. Rodriguez ultimately rejects a modified stipulation (if Ms. Rodriguez does). If the Commission ultimately rejects this Stipulation or if Ms. Rodriguez altimately rejects a modified stipulation, and Ms. Rodriguez has requested a hearing, the 90-day learing timeframe will begin from the ultimate rejection.

#### E. GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- 25. This Stipulation contains the entire agreement between the parties, and Ms. Rodriguez is not relying on any other agreement or representation, whether verbal or written.
- 26. This Stipulation, if approved by the Commission, or modified and approved, esolves a contested case. If approved, the Stipulation, consent order, and any attachment are public ecords. And if approved, the Commission may make available through its or the State Department of Education's website a copy of the Stipulation, consent order, and any attachment: and may report my discipline to the national clearinghouse for teacher certification.
- 27. Ms. Rodriguez agrees that she has read this Stipulation, has had the opportunity to liscuss it with legal counsel, if she so chose, and understands that by signing below, she will be greeing to the terms of this Stipulation.

## **SIGNATURES**

# Respondent

The Respondent Alexis Rodriguez, agrees to this Stipulation.

DATED this 23 day of October, 2021.

Alexis C. Rodrigyez

Respondent

## **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee recommends that the Commission enter an Order based upon this Stipulation.

DATED this 2 day of November, 2021

IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Kathy Davis, Member

## IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

In the matter of the certificate of:

Case No. 21811

Alexis C. Rodriguez

CONSENT ORDER

Respondent

The Professional Standards Commission orders that the Stipulation, entered between Alexis Rodriguez and the Executive Committee, is adopted as the informal disposition of this case, as permitted under Idaho Code § 67-5241. It will be effective on the **3** day of **becember**, 2021. The discipline listed in the Stipulation is imposed on Alexis Rodriguez's certificate under Idaho Code §§ 33-1208 and 33-1209. This is a final agency order, and Alexis Rodriguez has waived the right of judicial review.

IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

Steve Commann, Member

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

| I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 5 decorrect copy of the foregoing by the following  | ay of March, 2022, I caused to be served a true and g method to:   |
|--|--|
| Alexis C. Rodriguez, Respondent  | <ul> <li>☑ U.S. Mail</li> <li>☐ Hand Delivery</li> <li>☑ Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested</li> <li>☐ Overnight Mail</li> <li>☐ Facsimile:</li> <li>☐ Email:</li> </ul>     |
| Attorney for the Chief Certification Officer Robert A. Berry Deputy Attorney General P.O. Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0010 | ☐ U.S. Mail ☐ Hand Delivery ☐ Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested ☐ Overnight Mail ☐ Facsimile: (208) 854-8073 ☐ Email: robert.berry@ag.idaho.gov leslie.gottsch@ag.idaho.gov |
|  | Annette Schwab   |

Program Specialist

Idaho State Department of Education