

IN THE MATTER OF : NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
THE CERTIFICATES OF : STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS
JOANNE GRAZIANO : ORDER OF REVOCATION
_____ : DOCKET NO: 0506-144

At its meeting of September 22, 2005, the State Board of Examiners reviewed information Dr. Judith Weiss, Assistant Commissioner and Interim Passaic County Superintendent of Schools had forwarded regarding Joanne Graziano. Graziano had presented a copy of a certificate showing she received a Principal/Supervisor certificate in August 1980. Since the print on the certificate did not match the print on certificates issued by the State Board of Examiners, Dr. Weiss forwarded the copy of the certificate to the Board of Examiners as a possible fraudulent certificate. The records of the Office of Licensure and Credentials showed that Graziano holds only Teacher of Elementary School and Teacher of Spanish certificates, both issued in September 1975. At its meeting of September 22, 2005, the Board of Examiners voted to issue Graziano an Order to Show Cause.

The Order to Show Cause was sent to Graziano by regular and certified mail on September 26, 2005. Graziano responded to the Order to Show Cause on January 3, 2006. In that response, she denied any wrongdoing and stated that “as to the relative appearance of the two (2) certificates, the documents will speak for themselves.” (Answer, ¶¶ 3, 5). Upon receipt of Graziano’s response, the Board transmitted the case to the Office of Administrative Law for hearing.

Prior to hearing, Graziano agreed to forfeit her teaching certificates with the force and effect of a revocation and all attendant consequences and submitted an affidavit to that effect to the New Jersey State Board of Examiners. At its meeting of November 2,

2006, the Board voted to accept Graziano's relinquishment with the force and effect of a revocation pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 6A:9-17.8*.

Accordingly, on this 2nd day of November 2006 it is therefore ORDERED that the revocation of Joanne Graziano's Teacher of Elementary School and Teacher of Spanish certificates be effective immediately. It is further ORDERED that Graziano return her certificates to the Secretary of the State Board of Examiners, Office of Licensure, PO Box 500, Trenton, NJ 08625-0500 within 20 days of the mailing date of this decision.

Robert R. Higgins, Acting Secretary
State Board of Examiners

Date of Mailing: DECEMBER 8th, 2006

Appeals may be made to the State Board of Education pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 18A:6-28*.