

IN THE MATTER OF : NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
THE CERTIFICATES OF : STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS
STANLEY ROGERS : ORDER OF REVOCATION
_____ : DOCKET NO: 0506-268

At its meeting of May 4, 2006, the State Board of Examiners reviewed information received from the Paterson Police Department indicating that in 2003, Stanley Rogers was arrested for possession of a controlled dangerous substance. The charges were amended to disorderly persons-prowling and he was convicted of the amended charges. Rogers currently holds a Teacher of Social Studies certificate, issued in May 1974 and a Teacher of Elementary School certificate, issued in September 1977. Upon review of the above information, at its May 4, 2006 meeting, the State Board of Examiners voted to issue Rogers an Order to Show Cause. On June 8, 2006, the Board formally adopted its Order to Show Cause.

The Board sent Rogers the Order to Show Cause by regular and certified mail on June 23, 2006. The Order provided that Rogers' Answer was due within 30 days. The certified mail receipt was signed and returned. The regular mail copy was not returned. Rogers did not file a response. Thereafter, on August 3, 2006, the Board sent Rogers a second notice by regular and certified mail providing him an additional 15 days in which to file an Answer. Again, the certified mail copy was signed and returned and the regular mail copy was not returned. The notice explained that if he did not file a response, the allegations in the Order to Show Cause would be deemed admitted and the Board of Examiners would decide the matter based on the evidence before it. Once again, Rogers did not file an Answer.

At its meeting of September 21, 2006, the State Board of Examiners reviewed the charges in the Order to Show Cause. Since there was no response, the Board of Examiners determined that no material facts related to Rogers' offense were in dispute since he had never denied that he had pled guilty to the offense and had been sentenced accordingly. It is therefore ORDERED that the charges in the Order to Show Cause are deemed admitted for the purpose of this proceeding.

The issue before the State Board of Examiners in this matter, therefore, is whether Rogers' offense, as set forth in the Order to Show Cause, represents just cause to act against his certificates pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 6A:9-17.5*. The Board finds that it does.

The State Board of Examiners may revoke or suspend the certification of any certificate holder on the basis of demonstrated inefficiency, incapacity, conduct unbecoming a teacher or other just cause. *N.J.A.C. 6A:9-17.5*. "Teachers... are professional employees to whom the people have entrusted the care and custody of ... school children. This heavy duty requires a degree of self-restraint and controlled behavior rarely requisite to other types of employment." *Tenure of Sammons, 1972 S.L.D. 302, 321*. Rogers' involvement with drugs and his conviction for prowling, fall far short of the behavior expected of a role model for children.

Accordingly, on September 21, 2006, the Board voted to revoke Rogers' certificates. On this 2nd day of November 2006, the Board formally adopted its written decision to revoke and it is therefore ORDERED that Stanley Rogers' Teacher of Social Studies and Teacher of Elementary School certificates be revoked effective this 2nd day of November, 2006. It is further ORDERED that Rogers return his 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: NOVEMBER 8, 2006

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