

March 30, 2007

Mr. Ronald Gatewood

Re: In the Matter of the Application of Ronald Gatewood
Docket No. 0607-177

Dear Mr. Gatewood:

At its meeting of February 22, 2007, the State Board of Examiners reviewed the information that you had provided regarding your criminal history. Your application revealed that you have two convictions for drug possession, one in 1986 for possession of marijuana and one in 1989 for possession of cocaine.

In reviewing your application, the Board of Examiners noted the serious nature of your two drug convictions. The Legislature has also found that convictions for drug offenses are incompatible with the teaching profession. See *N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq.* The Board of Examiners finds that your two drug convictions and your failure to demonstrate sufficient rehabilitation provide sufficient reason to block your application for certification. Thus, at its March 29, 2007 meeting, the Board of Examiners voted to block your application for certification. If you are able to have the offenses expunged from your criminal record at some future date, the Board will reconsider your application for certification.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Higgins, Acting Secretary
State Board of Examiners

RRH/MZ/gatewood-block

This matter may be appealed to the Commissioner of Education pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 6A:3-1 et seq.*

By certified and regular mail
Date of mailing: April 2, 2007