

**BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**February 12, 2015**

**IN RE JENNIFER CLARE KENNEDY**  
**FINAL ORDER FOR REVOCATION OF LICENSE**

The Arkansas State Board of Education (Board), at its meeting of February 12, 2015, in the matter of the revocation of the license of Jennifer Clare Kennedy finds that upon consideration of the evidence and the Department's recommendation, her license should be permanently revoked in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Ark. Code Ann. 25-15-101 et seq. Accordingly, the Board hereby states as follows:

**I. FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Jennifer Clare Kennedy held a standard five-year teaching license issued on January 1, 2012, valid until December 31, 2016.
2. In June, 2014, the Department of Education became aware that Ms. Kennedy had a true finding of child maltreatment – sexual abuse – and that her name had been placed on the Child Maltreatment Central Registry.
3. On June 20, 2014, the Department notified Ms. Kennedy that based on Arkansas Code Ann. § 6-17-410 because she has a true report in the Child Maltreatment Central Registry, the Department would recommend that the Board permanently revoke her license. Further, the Department advised Ms. Kennedy that she is entitled to seek a waiver of the disqualifying offense from the Board.
4. Ms. Kennedy responded to the certified letter by stating she had requested an appeal from the Department of Human Services. However, the Department of Human Services advised the Department of Education that there was no pending request for a hearing, and that an order

existed placing her name on the Child Maltreatment Central Registry. The Department notified Ms. Kennedy that her matter would be heard at the Board's meeting on February 12, 2015. However, Ms. Kennedy did not respond to the letter within the time period required by law.

5. A motion was made to accept the Department's recommendation that the Board permanently revoke her license.

6. The Board's vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

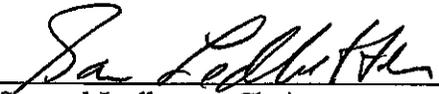
## **II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW; ORDER**

1. The State Board of Education may consider certain enumerated offenses as a disqualification for licensing and for employment in a public school. See Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-410(c), 6-17-410(d)(A)(5) and 6-17-411. The state board shall not issue a first-time license nor renew an existing license and shall revoke any existing license not up for renewal of any person who has a true report in the Child Maltreatment Central Registry. Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-410. Further, no person holding a license from the Board is eligible for employment by an educational entity if the results of the Child Maltreatment Central Registry check released to the Department of Education reveal that the applicant has a true report in the registry, unless the state board waives revocation.

2. Upon consideration of the evidence presented at the meeting and pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-11-105, 6-17-410 and 25-15-201 et seq., the Arkansas State Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Department and permanently revokes her license. Further, Jennifer Clare Kennedy is not eligible for employment in an Arkansas public school, school district, or education service cooperative.

3. This order shall become a permanent entry in the licensure file of the educator.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

  
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Samuel Ledbetter, Chair  
State Board of Education