

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

**FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER**  
**IN RE LAKENYA TAKAKO RILEY, PLSB CASE NO. 14-065**

At its regular meeting on March 12, 2015, the Arkansas State Board of Education (“Board”) accepted the recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board Ethics Subcommittee (“Ethics Subcommittee”) for disciplinary action against the teaching license of LaKenya Takako Riley (“Ms. Riley”).

Based upon Ms. Riley’s consent to the Ethics Subcommittee’s recommendation and the evidence presented, in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Ark. Code Ann. 25-15-101 et seq., the Board hereby states as follows:

**I. Findings of Fact:**

- a. The Arkansas Department of Education issued Ms. Riley a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2011, valid until December 31, 2015.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Ms. Riley violated the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators promulgated pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § § 6-17-422 and 6-17-428.
- c. On December 17, 2013, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into the allegation that Ms. Riley violated Standard 3: An educator honestly fulfills reporting obligations associated with professional practices.
- d. On December 18, 2013, Ms. Riley was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee’s authorization to investigate the allegation.

- e. After considering the investigator's report and evidence on July 14, 2014, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found reasonable belief that Ms. Riley violated Standard 3 by:

While completing her Arkansas Department of Education Educator's License renewal application on February 28, 2011, failing to disclose certain convictions for criminal offenses, thereby providing false and misleading information on the application.

The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the Board permanently revoke her license.

- f. Ms. Riley was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendation on July 15 2014, by certified and regular mail.
- g. Ms. Riley rejected the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation on August 8, 2014, and requested an evidentiary hearing under the Administrative Procedure Act, including those rights set forth in Ark. Code Ann. §§ 25-15-211 and 25-15-212.
- h. The evidentiary hearing was held on November 21, 2014. The Ethics Subcommittee found, by a preponderance of the evidence, that Ms. Riley violated Standard 3 of the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators. However, the Ethics Subcommittee modified its recommendation to placement of Ms. Riley's license on probation for two (2) years and an assessed \$75 fine.
- i. Ms. Riley accepted the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation on January 13, 2015, thereby waiving her right to any further notice, hearing, or any other rights she might have had under the Administrative Procedure Act, including those rights set forth in Ark. Code Ann. §§ 25-15-211 and 25-15-212.
- j. At today's meeting, the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation and supporting documentation were presented to the Board as part of its consent agenda.

**II. Conclusions of Law:**

- a. Upon consideration of the evidence presented at the meeting and pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-11-105, 6-17-401, 6-17-422, 6-17-428 and 25-15-201 et seq., and the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators, the Board adopts the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendations.
- b. Accordingly, the Board orders that Ms. Riley's license be placed on probation for two (2) years and assesses a \$75 fine.
- c. Ms. Riley is cautioned that further violations of the Code of Ethics or failure to pay the fine within ninety (90) days from the date of this order may result in a more severe discipline, including permanent revocation of her license.
- d. This order shall remain permanently in Ms. Riley's professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

  
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Samuel Ledbetter, Chair  
Arkansas State Board of Education