

IN THE MATTER OF : NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
THE CREDENTIAL OF : STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS
CHRISTOPHER RIVERA : DOCKET NO. 0607-145

REVOCATION/SUSPENSION PROCEEDING

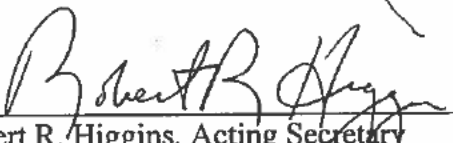
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

1. Christopher Rivera is the holder of a County Substitute Credential, issued in November 2005.
2. The Office of Compliance Investigation (OCI) in the Department of Education provided information to the State Board of Examiners regarding Rivera.
3. The OCI investigated allegations that Rivera had inappropriate contact with a student by visiting [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] home at night. Rivera also allegedly communicated with the student on-line.
4. The Bergen County Prosecutor's Office investigated the incident and found no evidence of any criminal wrongdoing. Rivera's computer was searched and no evidence of pornography or inappropriate communication was found. The Division of Youth and Family Services was also contacted by the school district and found there was no cause of action.
5. The OCI interviewed Rivera who stated that he gave his cell phone number to the student so that [REDACTED] could contact him, if necessary. The student claimed in a letter to her parents that when Rivera was [REDACTED] substitute teacher, he allowed [REDACTED] to cheat on tests and at times listen to music, offered to take [REDACTED] places when [REDACTED] was home alone and allowed [REDACTED] to

use his cell phone to take pictures during class. The student also alleged that [REDACTED] "cut" class twice to talk with Rivera. [REDACTED] also informed [REDACTED] parents that Rivera told [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The student also claimed that [REDACTED] would talk to Rivera on the phone and send text messages to him. Rivera denied these allegations. The OCI report claimed Rivera visited the student at home because he feared for [REDACTED] safety.

6. The State Board of Examiners finds that Rivera's conduct provides just cause for consideration of the revocation or suspension of his credential.
7. Pursuant to the Examiners' vote, it is therefore on this 18th day of January 2007 ORDERED that Christopher Rivera show cause why his County Substitute Credential should not be revoked or suspended.


Robert R. Higgins, Acting Secretary
New Jersey State Board of Examiners

Date of Mailing: JANUARY 25th, 2007