

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
AND
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

IN THE MATTER OF THE STUDENT
TEACHING CERTIFICATE OF
GEORGE R. GRIMES

DECISION

Held: Student teaching certificate is
restored on a provisional basis.

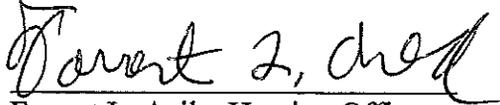
Date: January 22, 1998

The petitioner in this case is seeking the restoration of a student-teaching certificate. In his application for this certification he stated that he had never been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor. In fact he had pled nolo contendere to a charge of operating a motor vehicle on a suspended license. This nolo plea resulted in misdemeanor conviction in 1993.

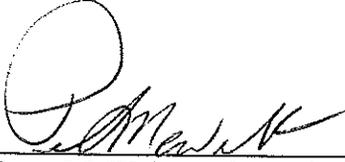
The petitioner testified that he erroneously considered this conviction to be a simple traffic offense which did not have to be reported but he conceded that he was wrong in not exercising greater care and caution in filling out the form and that he recognized the seriousness of his fault on this point. He's employer testified that he is an excellent and trustworthy employee who is often entrusted with cash and with maintaining the security of the work place. A neighbor testified that his character is excellent and that he has been a trustworthy and reliable friend. His supervising professor, who has considerable experience in the field of education, considers the petitioner to be honest and reliable. He feels sure that the petitioner recognizes the seriousness of his error. He is confident that the petitioner will comport himself in an exemplary manner as a public school teacher.

Based upon the petitioner's candid admission of his fault and the excellent character witnesses he has presented, it is our decision to restore his student teaching certificate on a provisional basis.

The decision shall remain in the petitioner's certification file for a period of one year and shall constitute a letter of admonition. Provided good conduct is maintained it may be removed and this matter may be closed.


Forrest L. Avila, Hearing Officer

Approved:


Peter McWalters, Commissioner

Date JANUARY 22, 1998