# Subcommittee for the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development State Capitol Building 400 High Street, Room 213, Jackson MS 9:00 a.m. December 7, 2016

In accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 37-3-2(10) and 25-41-5, a subcommittee of the members of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (Commission) met at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 7, 2016, in the Room 213 of the State Capitol Building located at 400 High Street, Jackson, MS.

**Members in Attendance:** Kenny Goza, Doris Perkins, and Corey Welch **Commission Counsel:** Erin Meyer, Special Assistant Attorney General

#### Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Personnel Attending:

James Thompson, Interim Director/Investigator Office of Educator Misconduct ("OEM") Joseph A. Runnels, Special Assistant Attorney General, Counsel to OEM Raina Anderson Lee, Special Assistant Attorney General, Counsel to OEM

#### **Other Individuals Attending:**

Linda Winters-Johnson, Respondent/Educator Kenneth Grigsby, Attorney for the Respondent

## I. Case of Linda Winters-Johnson; Educator License No.: 145723

Kenny Goza, serving as presiding officer for the Commission Hearing Subcommittee, called the hearing to order at 9:08 a.m.

The Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act prohibits educational agencies from disclosing student's personally identifiable information without parental permission. Based on argument from Raina Anderson Lee, counsel for the Office of Educator Misconduct, the Commission considered going into executive session to prevent the release of student information. Corey Welch made the motion to consider going into executive session which was seconded by Doris Perkins.

At 9:53 a.m. Corey Welch moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into executive session to prevent the release of student information. Doris Perkins seconded the motion, and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following individuals remained in the room: Kenny Goza, Doris Perkins, Corey Welch, Erin Meyer, Raina Anderson Lee, Joseph Runnels, James Thompson, Kenneth Grigsby, Linda Winters-Johnson, the Court Reporter, and witness Xavier Hodo.

On a motion by Corey Welch, seconded by Doris Perkins, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session at 10:58 a.m.

On a motion by Corey Welch, seconded by Doris Perkins, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to consider going into executive session.

At 11:18 a.m., Corey Welch moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into executive session to prevent the release of student information. Doris Perkins seconded the motion, and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following individuals remained in the room: Kenny Goza, Doris Perkins, Corey Welch, Erin Meyer, Raina Anderson Lee, Joseph Runnels, James Thompson, Kenneth Grigsby, Linda Winters-Johnson, the Court Reporter, and the student witness and student's parent.

On a motion by Corey Welch, seconded by Doris Perkins, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session at 11:50 a.m.

The Commission Hearing Subcommittee took a recess at 11:51 a.m.

The Commission Hearing Subcommittee resumed at 1:06 p.m.

On a motion by Corey Welch, seconded by Doris Perkins, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to consider going into executive session.

At 1:26 p.m. Corey Welch moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into executive session to prevent the release of student information. Doris Perkins seconded the motion, and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following individuals remained in the room: Kenny Goza, Doris Perkins, Corey Welch, Erin Meyer, Raina Anderson Lee, Joseph Runnels, James Thompson, Kenneth Grigsby, Linda Winters-Johnson, the Court Reporter, and the witness, Leeson Taylor.

On a motion by Corey Welch, seconded by Doris Perkins, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session at 2:14 p.m.

The Commission Hearing Subcommittee took a recess at 2:15 p.m.

The Commission Hearing Subcommittee resumed at 2:23 p.m.

On a motion by Corey Welch, seconded by Doris Perkins, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to consider going into executive session.

At 2:42 p.m. Corey Welch moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into executive session to prevent the release of student information. Doris Perkins seconded the motion, and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session. The following individuals remained in the room: Kenny Goza, Doris

Perkins, Corey Welch, Erin Meyer, Raina Anderson Lee, Joseph Runnels, James Thompson, Kenneth Grigsby, Linda Winters-Johnson, and the Court Reporter.

On a motion by Corey Welch, seconded by Doris Perkins, the Commission Hearing unanimously voted to come out of executive session at 3:26 p.m.

After all exhibits were received into evidence and testimony heard, Kenny Goza moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee consider going into executive session. Corey Welch seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to consider going into executive session. Corey Welch moved that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee go into executive session for deliberation and findings concerning the license of educator Linda Winters Johnson. Doris Perkins seconded the motion and the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to go into executive session at 4:17 p.m.

On a motion by Doris Perkins, seconded by Corey Welch, the Commission Hearing Subcommittee unanimously voted to come out of executive session at 4:31 p.m.

After coming out of executive session, Kenny Goza reported that the Commission Hearing Subcommittee took the following action:

Unanimously voted to immediately suspend for twelve (12) years, Educator License No.: 145723 held by Linda Winters Johnson, based on violations of the Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(12)(h) and Standard 4 of the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics Standards of Conduct.

## II. Adjournment

On a Motion by Corey Welch, seconded by Doris Perkins, this hearing adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

**Approved:** 

Kenny Goza, Subcommittee Chair Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development

Paula A. Vanderford, Ph.D., Executive Secretary Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development