

**BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In the Matter of the  
Disciplinary Action of the  
Educator Certificate of  
Nzingha Oakes  
Certificate 314098

**CONSENT ORDER OF REVOCATION**

**SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on December 2, 2025. On September 8, 2025, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent notice via regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, to Nzingha Oakes concerning pending action against her South Carolina educator certificate 170142. After receiving the notice, MS. Oakes contacted the SCDE to discuss an alternative resolution to a hearing. Ms. Oakes has agreed to waive her right to a hearing and enter into this Consent Order of Revocation of educator certificate 314098. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Revocation of Ms. Oakes’s educator certificate 314098, effective December 2, 2025.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

Ms. Oakes holds a South Carolina educator certificate and has over one year of educator experience. Ms. Oakes was previously suspended by this Board on March 10, 2025. On February 20, 2025, Ms. Oakes pled guilty to pointing and presenting a firearm at a person. Ms. Oakes’s criminal charge was based on an incident that occurred on March 24, 2024, where Ms. Oakes pointed a firearm at another individual. Ms. Oakes was sentenced under the Youthful Offender Act to imprisonment for a term of five years, suspended upon the service of three years of probation. Ms. Oakes also successfully completed an anger management course.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Revocation of Ms. Oakes, educator certificate 314098, effective December 2, 2025.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

“The State Board may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2020); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2025). Just cause includes “incompetence; willful neglect of duty; willful violation of the rules and regulations of the State Board

Nzingha Oakes, Certificate 314098  
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of Education; unprofessional conduct; drunkenness; cruelty; crime against the law of this State or the United States; immorality; any conduct involving moral turpitude; dishonesty; evident unfitness for position for which employed; or sale or possession of narcotics.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2025); S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (2021).

The State Board finds that the evidence presented by the SCDE supports its decision that just cause exists to revoke education certificate 314098, issued in the name of Ms. Oakes, effective December 2, 2025. Ms. Oakes has the right to reapply for certification after three years. Ms. Oakes shall, pursuant to State Board Rule BBCDB, be subject to a character and fitness review before the State Board with employment information during the period of certificate surrender; community service records; letters of support from a current or prospective school district employer, if applicable; letters of support from community leaders; and SLED and FBI background checks. Ms. Oakes shall also pay all applicable fees for certification, if any. The revocation of Ms. Oakes’s educator certificate 314098 shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order.

Ms. Oakes does not oppose and accepts the State Board’s decision to approve the Consent Order of Revocation of her educator certificate 314098, issued under the name of Nzingha Oakes, and accepts the revocation of her educator certificate, effective December 2, 2025.

Now, therefore it is hereby ordered that the Consent Order of Revocation is accepted and the educator certificate of Ms. Oakes, certificate 314098, shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order.

**AND IT IS SO ORDERED.**

South Carolina Board of Education

s/Rita Allison  
Rita Allison, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina  
December 2, 2025  
[Signature on Nex Page]

Nzingha Oakes  
314098  
s/NO  
Initial  
11/15/25  
Date

I, Nzingha Oakes, SC Educator Certificate 314098, understand there has been an investigation concerning alleged violations of the laws and regulations governing the practice of educator certificate holders and that I have waived my right to a hearing in this matter. I understand the terms set forth in this Consent Order of Revocation are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack, or judicial review. I agree to the terms of this Consent Order of Revocation, consisting of 3 pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board for approval on [date State Board Hearing scheduled]. I hereby acknowledge that this revocation permanent surrender shall have the same effect as a revocation of my certificate. I knowingly forfeit and relinquish all right, title, and privilege of holding myself out as and being able to practice as an educator in the public schools in the State of South Carolina.

I agree that I will not serve or be employed as an educator, paraprofessional, aide, substitute teacher, band teacher, coach, or in any other position in a public school in the State of South Carolina. I understand the term 'public school' includes any public charter school. I understand this Order will not become effective until approved by the State Board and, if not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding or prejudice the right of the State Board to adjudicate this matter. If approved by the State Board, I give the SCDE permission to use my electronic signature in the style of "s/name" for required website publication.

S/Nzingha Oakes  
Nzingha Oakes

11/15/25  
Date

Nzingha Oakes  
314098  
s/NO  
Initial  
11/15/25  
Date