

**MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA ITEM: December 2017**

**CONSIDERATION TO DISCIPLINE THE  
LICENSE TO TEACH OF JAMES E. BELL, CASE # HR 17-006**

<p><b>STATUTORY AUTHORITY:</b></p> <p align="center">Section 168.071, RSMo</p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Consent Item    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Item    <input type="checkbox"/> Report Item </p>
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**STRATEGIC PRIORITY**

Teachers and Leaders – Prepare, develop and support educators to ensure an effective teacher in every classroom and an effective leader in every school.

**SUMMARY**

James E. Bell holds a valid career administrator certificate in the area of Principal, grades 7-12 with effective dates of February 6, 2006, through February 6, 2105. He also held a provisional certificate in General Science, grades 5-9; a provisional certificate II in Physical Education, grades 7-12; and an initial administrator certificate in the area of Superintendent, grades K-12, but they are currently expired. Mr. Bell is not currently teaching.

On May 6, 2016, Mr. Bell pled guilty and received a suspended execution of sentence (SES) to four counts of the Class B Felony, Possession of a Controlled Substance With Intent to Distribute. Mr. Bell received five years of supervised probation and 30 days shock incarceration in the St. Francois County jail.

Mr. Bell was neither present at the hearing, nor represented through counsel.

**PRESENTER**

William R. Thornton, General Counsel, will participate in the presentation and discussion of this agenda item.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Department recommends that the State Board of Education revoke Mr. Bell’s certificates or claims of certification pursuant to its authority under Mo. Rev. Stat. § 168.071 (2016).