

**MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA ITEM:****October 2014**

CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF A SUBSTITUTE CERTIFICATE  
OF LICENSE TO TEACH TO RONNELL J. COTTON

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:**

Section 168.071, RSMo

Consent  
ItemAction  
ItemReport  
Item

## DEPARTMENT GOAL NO. 3:

Missouri will prepare, develop, and support effective educators.

## SUMMARY:

Applicant's Name: Ronnell J. Cotton

On August 1, 2014, Ronnell J. Cotton applied for a substitute certificate of license to teach.

Offense: On or between April 1, 2004 and August 31, 2006, Ms. Cotton, age 26, appropriated currency from the city of Forest City while she was employed with them, and appropriated the currency without consent of the municipality.

Disposition: On August 19, 2008, Ronnell J. Cotton pled guilty and received a suspended execution of sentence to the felony, Theft/Stealing, in the Circuit Court of Holt County, case number 07J9-CR00029-01. Ms. Cotton was sentenced to five years' supervised probation, which was successfully completed on April 2, 2013. Total restitution to the city of Forest City was in the amount of \$21,104.58, with the defendant paying \$4,013.08 and the remaining amount of \$17,091.50 discharged through bankruptcy.

Letters of Recommendation: Three (3) – (Friend, Business Owner, Business Owner/Director).

## PRESENTER(S):

Paul Katnik, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Educator Quality, will assist with the presentation and discussion of this agenda item.

## RECOMMENDATION:

We recommend that the State Board of Education deny the application of Ronnell J. Cotton for a substitute certificate of license to teach.



DESE - Substitute Certification



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
 OFFICE OF EDUCATOR QUALITY  
 EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION  
 POST OFFICE BOX 480  
 JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102-0480  
 (573)751-0051

POSSIBLE DISCIPLINE

APPLICATION FOR A SUBSTITUTE CERTIFICATE OF LICENSE TO TEACH

SECTION I: APPLICANT INFORMATION

PROFILE

Educator ID:   Social Security Number:

Name: RONNELL JO COTTON [View Application Checklist](#)

Address: PO BOX 123

City: FAUCETT State:  Zip: 64448-9117

Personal Phone: ( 816 ) 261 - 6769

Work Phone: ( 816 ) 238 - 4568

Email Address: [RONNYJOCOTTON@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:RONNYJOCOTTON@HOTMAIL.COM)

EDUCATION

No records to display

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT (ALL QUESTIONS MUST BE ANSWERED)

Please answer the following questions. If you answer yes to any of the questions, please provide an explanation in the box below.

Have you ever been charged with, convicted or entered a plea, including a plea of nolo contendere, to any felony or misdemeanor whether or not sentence was imposed or suspended, except minor traffic violations? If yes, explain fully.

I PLED GUILTY TO A THEFT CHARGE IN 2008.

Yes  No

Have you ever been denied a professional license, certificate, permit, credential, endorsement, or registration? If yes, explain fully.

Yes  No

Has your professional license (except for driver's license), certificate, permit, credential, endorsement, or registration ever been disciplined, suspended, revoked, reprimanded, restricted, curtailed or voluntarily surrendered or do you have any pending complaints before any regulatory board or agency or is there any investigation or adverse action now pending against you? If yes, explain fully.

Yes  No

Have you ever resigned, been restricted, disciplined, or discharged from any position, including the armed forces, while under suspicion of having engaged in criminal, immoral, unethical behavior or unprofessional conduct, or are you under investigation for any such charge? If yes, explain fully.

Yes  No

TYPE OF APPLICATION

CONTENT SUBSTITUTE

Selected Payment Type : Debit, Credit, eCheck payment  
 Actual Payment Type : Debit, Credit, eCheck payment  
 Application Fee : 50.00  
 Amount Paid : 50.00  
 Amount Remaining : 0.00  
 Payment Status : Paid  
 Comments :

SWORN STATEMENT

I, the above named applicant, hereby affirm under penalties of perjury that I am the applicant referred to in the preceding application for a certificate of license to teach in the state of Missouri, and that all statements and enclosures are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. I understand that any misrepresentation of facts may result in the denial or revocation of the requested certificate(s). I submit for consideration this application as required by the Missouri law governing the practice of teaching. I understand that the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education may require further information of evidence that it deems reasonable and proper. Furthermore, I voluntarily consent to a thorough investigation of my present and past employment and other activities for the purpose of verifying my qualifications. In addition, I grant permission to access any court, FBI, or police records related to arrests and convictions related to good moral character or personal fitness pertinent to my certification, and to probation or parole records as well.

**RELEASE OF EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION**

I hereby give my recommending certification institution permission to release any and all information needed.

BY SELECTING "I Accept", I AGREE TO THE TERMS OF THE SWORN STATEMENT AND TO THE RELEASE OF MY EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION.

I Accept

It is the policy of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, or disability in its programs or employment practices as required by Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Inquiries related to Department programs and to the location of services, activities, and facilities that are accessible by persons with disabilities may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Office of the General Counsel, Coordinator: Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI/Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act), 6th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 450, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480, telephone number (573) 526-4257 or TTY (800) 735-2966, fax (573) 522-4893, email [civilrights@desse.mo.gov](mailto:civilrights@desse.mo.gov)

**SECTION II: DESE**

1 record(s)

Subject Area	Grade Level	Classification	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Analysis Indicator	Status
CONTENT SUBSTITUTE						

**Memo (Public):**

NEED BACKGROUND CLEARANCE AND ORIGINAL TRANSCRIPTS

[Edit](#)

Last Team Member to Update Memo: RSEGALL

Status:

Assign To:

Date Received: 08/01/2014

[Save](#)

[Cancel](#)

Email: [certification@desse.mo.gov](mailto:certification@desse.mo.gov)

Current User: ALEE Last Modified User: K MILLERS Last Modified Date: 8/8/2014 10:06:36 AM

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Online

Privacy/Security

Policy

Ver. 3.0.2014



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOLT COUNTY, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: I	Case Number: 07J9-CR00029-01
Case Name: STATE OF MISSOURI V RONNIE JO COTTON	

**Certificate of Clerk**

I, Vicki Book, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Division I of Holt County, which said court is a court of record, having a clerk and seal, certify that the attached is a true, accurate and complete copy of Felony Complaint, Information, Judgment, Order of Probation and Docket Sheet in the above entitled case, as the same appears of record and on file in this office.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the court affixed hereto on August 12, 2014.

Clerk *Vicki Book*

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

*(Seal of the Court)*

07J9-CR00029-01 ST V RONNIE JO COTTON

Security Level: 1 Public

**Case Type:** CC Felony **Case Filing Date:** 18-Apr-2007  
**Status:** Judgment CVC \$46 - Other  
**Disposition:** Guilty Plea **Disposition Date:** 19-Aug-2008  
**OCN#:** 98889808  
**Arresting Agency:** MO0440000

		<u>Release/Status</u>	<u>Reason</u>
		<u>Change Date</u>	
Judge	ROGER M PROKES (27496)		
Defendant	<b>RONNIE JO COTTON (COTRJ8116)</b>		
Attorney for Defendant	MARK H WISSEHR(22569)		
Prosecuting Attorney	ROBERT R SHEPHERD (27940)		
Prosecuting Attorney	SYDNEY F WEYBREW JR (20345)	31-Oct-2008	No Longer in Office/Position
Attorney for Defendant	CHAD ANTHONY GADDIE (47096)	05-Sep-2007	
<b>Officer Badge No.:</b>	186		

Charge #	Charge Date	Charge Code	Charge Description
<b>Original Charge:</b> 1	01-Apr-2004	1502100	Theft/Stealing (Value Of Property Or Services Is \$500 Or More But Less Than \$25,000) ( <b>Felony C RSMo : 570.030</b> )
<b>Disposition:</b>	19-Aug-2008	Guilty Plea	
<b>Order Date:</b>	30-Sep-2008		<b>Sentence or SIS:</b> Incarceration DOC
<b>Length:</b> 4 Years			<b>Start Date:</b> 30-Sep-2008
<b>EXECUTION OF SENTENCE SUSPENDED</b>			
<b>Program:</b> PROBATION			<b>Agency:</b> MISSOURI BOARD OF PROBATION & PAROLE
<b>Associated To:</b> Charge 1			
<b>Classification:</b> SUPERVISED			
<b>Start Date:</b> 30-Sep-2008		<b>Due to End</b> 30-Sep-2013	

<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
18-Apr-2007	<b>Information Filed</b> <b>Filed By:</b> SYDNEY F WEYBREW  <b>Correspondence Filed</b> TO: MR GADDIE  <b>Arraignment Scheduled</b> <b>Scheduled For:</b> 06-Jun-2007; 9:30 AM; ROGER M PROKES; <b>Setting:</b> 0; Holt
25-Apr-2007	<b>Motion for Change of Venue</b> Faxed <b>Filed By:</b> CHAD A GADDIE
26-Apr-2007	<b>Motion for Change of Venue</b> Original <b>Filed By:</b> CHAD A GADDIE

Case continued from previous page.

**07J9-CR00029-01 ST V RONNIE JO COTTON****Security Level: 1 Public**

- 06-Jun-2007 **Hearing Held**  
State appears through prosecuting attorney Weybrew. Defendant appears in person and with attorney Gaddie. Defendant waives formal reading on the information and enters plea of not guilty.  
**Scheduled For:** 06-Jun-2007; 9:30 AM; ROGER M PROKES; **Setting:** 0; Holt  
**Pre-trial Conference Scheduled**  
**Scheduled For:** 05-Sep-2007; 9:30 AM; ROGER M PROKES; **Setting:** 0; Holt
- 23-Aug-2007 **Correspondence Filed**  
Letter to Mr. Gaddie  
**Filed By:** SYDNEY F WEYBREW
- 31-Aug-2007 **Motion to Withdraw**  
**Filed By:** CHAD A GADDIE
- 05-Sep-2007 **Entry of Appearance Filed**  
**Filed By:** MARK H WISSEHR  
**Hearing Held**  
Defendant and attorney Wissehr appear. Attorney Gaddy is allowed leave to withdraw. Matter is set for Jury trial Dec. 12 & 13, 2007 at 9:00am. RP  
**Filed By:** ROGER M PROKES  
**Scheduled For:** 05-Sep-2007; 9:30 AM; ROGER M PROKES; **Setting:** 0; Holt
- 06-Sep-2007 **Jury Trial Scheduled**  
**Scheduled For:** 12-Dec-2007 ; 9:00 AM; ROGER M PROKES; **Setting:** 0; Holt; **Length:** 2 Days
- 01-Nov-2007 **Judge/Clerk - Note**  
11/1/07 This matter is ordered continued from December 13, 2007 to April 3 and 4, 2008 for jury trial commencing at 9:00 AM. Roger Prokes, Circuit Judge  
**Filed By:** ROGER M PROKES  
**Hearing Continued/Rescheduled**  
**Hearing Continued From:** 12-Dec-2007; 9:00 AM  
**Jury Trial Scheduled**  
**Scheduled For:** 03-Apr-2008; 9:00 AM; ROGER M PROKES; **Setting:** 0; Holt
- 26-Mar-2008 **Judge/Clerk - Note**  
3/26/08 Due to Judge Prokes being appointed to be a sit as a Special Judge with the Missouri Supreme Court en banc on April 3, this case is continued for trial by the court. A new date is to bet set on April 9, 2008 at 9:00 AM unless it is accomplished earlier by conference call initiated by the defense attorney. Roger Prokes, Circuit/Presiding Judge  
**Filed By:** ROGER M PROKES  
**Hearing Continued/Rescheduled**  
**Hearing Continued From:** 03-Apr-2008; 9:00 AM  
**Trial Setting Scheduled**  
**Scheduled For:** 09-Apr-2008; 9:30 AM; ROGER M PROKES; **Setting:** 0; Holt
- 09-Apr-2008 **Hearing Held**  
Defendant appears by attorney. Matter is set for Jury Trial 8/20&21/2008 at 9:00AM. RP  
**Filed By:** ROGER M PROKES  
**Scheduled For:** 09-Apr-2008; 9:30 AM

Case continued from previous page.

**07J9-CR00029-01 ST V RONNIE JO COTTON****Security Level: 1 Public**

09-Apr-2008 **Jury Trial Scheduled**  
**Scheduled For:**20-Aug-2008 ; 9:00 AM; ROGER M PROKES; **Setting:** 0; Holt; **Length:** 2 Days

23-Jul-2008 **Subpoena Issued**  
Three Subpoenas issued.  
**Filed By:** SYDNEY F WEYBREW

28-Jul-2008 **Subpoena Served**  
To Ron Amos and Margaret "Peggy Ann" Edwards

12-Aug-2008 **Correspondence Filed**  
To Mr. Wissehr  
**Filed By:** SYDNEY F WEYBREW

**Correspondence Filed**  
To Mr Wissehr  
**Filed By:** SYDNEY F WEYBREW

13-Aug-2008 **Correspondence Filed**  
To Mr. Wissehr  
**Filed By:** SYDNEY F WEYBREW

14-Aug-2008 **Correspondence Filed**  
To Mr Wissehr (2 letters)  
**Filed By:** SYDNEY F WEYBREW

15-Aug-2008 **Subpoena Issued**  
ISSUED TO : Steve Hughes  
**Filed By:** SYDNEY F WEYBREW

18-Aug-2008 **Judge/Clerk - Note**  
8/18/08 Atty Wisseher advised the court that he anticipates this matter will be disposed of by plea. It is ordered that this case be removed from the 8/20/08 jury trial docket and be scheduled for plea at 3:00 PM on 8/19/08. Roger Prokes, Circuit/Presiding Judge  
**Filed By:** ROGER M PROKES

**Hearing Continued/Rescheduled**  
**Hearing Continued From:** 20-Aug-2008; 9:00 AM

**Plea Hearing Scheduled**  
**Scheduled For:** 19-Aug-2008; 3:00 PM; ROGER M PROKES; **Setting:** 0; Holt

**Subpoena Served**  
To Steve Hughes

19-Aug-2008 **Guilty Plea**  
**Scheduled For:** 19-Aug-2008; 3:00 PM; ROGER M PROKES; **Setting:** 0; Holt

**Sentencing Hearing Scheduled**  
**Scheduled For:** 30-Sep-2008; 1:30 PM; ROGER M PROKES; **Setting:** 0; Holt

**Sent Assessment Report Ordered**  
FELONY PLEA OF GUILTY CHECK SHEET/DOCKET ENTRY  
**Filed By:** ROGER M PROKES

Case continued from previous page.

**07J9-CR00029-01 ST V RONNIE JO COTTON****Security Level: 1 Public**

03-Sep-2008 **Correspondence Filed**  
TO Judge Prokes  
George Scott Murray City Attorney for Forest City, Mo (letter requesting restitution and copy of audit.)

26-Sep-2008 **Sent Assessment Report Filed**

30-Sep-2008 **Sentencing Hearing Held**  
**Defendant Sentenced**  
ALLOCUTION - Yes  
**Sentence Date:** 30-Sep-2008; **Sentence:** Incarceration DOC  
**Judgment CVC \$46 - Other**  
**Judgment Against:** RONNIE COTTON; **Amount:** \$46.00; **Satisfied Date:**  
**Associated To:** RONNIE J COTTON  
**Costs Ordered to Def**  
**Probation Order**  
Not violate any state or federal law nor any penal ordinance of any county or municipality. Standard conditions of Probation and Parole. Serve 60 days in jail as shock time at defendant's cost to be served 30 days and then 15, 48 hour periods on weekends. Pay all fines, court costs, CVCF, jail costs and restitution at the rate of \$300.00 commencing on January 10, 2009 and the 10th day of each month thereafter until satisfied. Abide by special conditions of probation. Stay of execution to 9:00am on October 6, 2008. Total restitution to City of Forest City \$21,104.58  
**Filed By:** ROGER M PROKES  
**Felony Costs Tax-Reg-w/costs**  
**Associated To:** RONNIE J COTTON

20-Nov-2008 **Judge/Clerk - Note**  
11/20/08 It is ordered that the balance of the 60 days of shock time to be served, believed to be 30 days, is to be done on 15 consecutive weekend periods from 7:00 PM Friday to 7:00 PM Sunday commencing November 28, 2008. This time is to be served in the Pattensburg Jail at defendant's cost as previously ordered. It is asked that the Circuit Clerk prepare the appropriate commitment order .  
Roger Prokes Circuit/Presiding Judge Fourth Judicial Circuit  
**Filed By:** ROGER M PROKES  
**Judge/Clerk - Note**  
Commitment after jail sentence sent to Dekalb/Pattonsburg Jail

20-Jan-2009 **Judge/Clerk - Note**  
1/20/09 The defendant is to do the balance of her jail time straight until completed commencing at 6:00 PM Friday January 16, 2009. Roger Prokes Circuit/Presiding Judge Fourth Judicial Circuit  
**Filed By:** ROGER M PROKES

15-Apr-2009 **Judge/Clerk - Note**  
After payment by Defendant of restitution in the amount of \$4,013.08 and costs, the balance goes to the insurance carrier upon share of payment to city of \$17,091.50 by insurance. RP  
**Filed By:** ROGER M PROKES

26-Aug-2011 **Filing:**  
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI  
MOTION TO SUSPEND PLAN PAYMENTS

**ORDER OF PROBATION**

State v. Ronnie Jo Cotton Case Number 07J9-000029-0  
Disposition 4yr SES Probation Term 5yr

**Supervision**

- Not violate any state or federal criminal law nor any penal ordinance of any county or municipality
- Standard conditions of  Northwest Court Services  Private Probation Services  Probation and Parole  St. Joseph Safety Council  Northland Dependency Services  Midwest ADP  Court  \_\_\_\_\_
- Provide proof of enrollment with probation officer to the Court by \_\_\_\_\_ [(660) 582-2531]
- Notify Court of change of residency within forty-eight (48) hours

**Special Conditions**

**Checks**

- a. Not pass any insufficient funds, closed account or other bad check
- b. Not have a checking account or write any check
- c. Pay restitution on **ALL** outstanding checks, including service charges  through the Court  directly to victim/merchant by \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Complete a check management program by \_\_\_\_\_ [(660) 582-8804 Maryville; (816) 233-3330 St. Joseph]

**Alcohol/Drugs**

- e. Not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages \_\_\_\_\_
- f. Not be in any place of business whose principal occupation is the sale or dispensing of alcoholic beverages \_\_\_\_\_
- g. Successfully complete SATOP or comparable program by \_\_\_\_\_  
*John Sutherland Counseling: 582-1143 (Maryville); 816-233-5343 (St. Joseph); Family Guidance: 582-3139 (Maryville); 816-364-6720 (St. Joseph); St. Joseph Safety Council: 816-233-3330*
- h. Successfully complete a substance abuse evaluation/in-patient/out-patient treatment program approved by probation officer by \_\_\_\_\_ and follow all aftercare/directives
- i. Not operate a motor vehicle unless lawfully licensed
- j. Not operate any motor vehicle unless equipped with a functioning, certified ignition interlock device
- k. Maintain SCRAM alcohol detection device \_\_\_\_\_ and abide by all terms and conditions thereof. Provide proof of enrollment in the SCRAM system to probation officer by \_\_\_\_\_ [(816) 390-3373]
- l. Attend \_\_\_\_\_ AA/NA meetings per week and provide proof to probation officer
- m. Complete Midwest Victim Impact Program by \_\_\_\_\_ [(816) 640-5883 or (866) 686-8681]
- n. Comply with all sanctions regarding loss of driver's license/privilege

**Public Service Work**

- o. Complete \_\_\_\_\_ hours of public service work and provide written proof to the Court and Probation Officer by \_\_\_\_\_

**Jail**

- p. Serve 60 days in jail as shock time at defendant's cost, to be served 30 days of the 15-48 hour period on weekends

**Costs**

- q. Pay all fines, court costs, CVCF, jail costs and any public defender fees \_\_\_\_\_
- r. Pay all restitution, fines, court costs, CVCF, jail costs and public defender fees through the Court at the rate of \$300 commencing on 10 Jan 09 and the 10<sup>th</sup> day of each month thereafter until satisfied
- s. **REAPPEAR BEFORE THE COURT ON** \_\_\_\_\_ to establish payment plan

**Other Special Conditions**

- t. Abide by the special conditions of probation as listed in the sentencing advisory report: -1-10
- u. Stay f - x - on to 9:00 AM on Oct 6, 2008
- v. \_\_\_\_\_
- w. \_\_\_\_\_

- x. All restitution to bear interest of nine percent (9%) per annum from \_\_\_\_\_ until satisfied.

Ronnie Jo Cotton  
Defendant  
09-30-08  
Date

**IT IS SO ORDERED THIS DATE.**  
[Signature]  
Judge

**FILED**



IN THE 4TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, HOLT COUNTY, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: ROGER M PROKES	Case Number: 07J9-CR00029-01
	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Venue
	County:
	Case Number:
	Offense Cycle No.:
State of Missouri  Defendant: RONNIE JO COTTON	vs.  Prosecuting Attorney/MO Bar No.: SYDNEY F WEYBREW JR - 20345  Defense Attorney/MO Bar No.: CHAD ANTHONY GADDIE - 47096
DOB: 13-OCT-1977    SSN: [REDACTED]    SEX: F	Appeal Bond Set Date: Amount:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-Sentence Assessment Report Ordered <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Sentence Assessment Report Waived	

FILED

SEP 30 2008

WICKI BOOK  
CIRCUIT CLERK - DIV.  
HOLT COUNTY, MISSOURI

(Date File Stamp)

Judgment

Count No. 1 Charge Description: Theft/Stealing Charge Code: 1502100 Statute: 570.030 Date of Offense: 04-01-2004	Count No. Charge Description: Charge Code: Statute: Date of Offense:	Count No. Charge Description: Charge Code: Statute: Date of Offense:
<input type="checkbox"/> Misdemeanor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Felony Class <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> Unclassified	<input type="checkbox"/> Misdemeanor <input type="checkbox"/> Felony Class <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> Unclassified	<input type="checkbox"/> Misdemeanor <input type="checkbox"/> Felony Class <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> Unclassified
On the above count, it is adjudged that the defendant has been: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Found Guilty upon a plea of guilty <input type="checkbox"/> Found guilty by a jury/court <input type="checkbox"/> Dismissed/Nolle pros/found not guilty	On the above count, it is adjudged that the defendant has been: <input type="checkbox"/> Found Guilty upon a plea of guilty <input type="checkbox"/> Found guilty by a jury/court <input type="checkbox"/> Dismissed/Nolle pros/found not guilty	On the above count, it is adjudged that the defendant has been: <input type="checkbox"/> Found Guilty upon a plea of guilty <input type="checkbox"/> Found guilty by a jury/court <input type="checkbox"/> Dismissed/Nolle pros/found not guilty

The defendant has been found beyond a reasonable doubt to be a:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Persistent Sexual Offender (558.018 RSMo)                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Predatory Sexual Offender (558.018 RSMo)                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Persistent Drug Offender (195.285, .291, .292, .295, or .296 RSMo)        | <input type="checkbox"/> Prior Drug Offender (195.285, .291, .295, or .296 RSMo)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Persistent Misdemeanor Offender (558.016 RSMo)                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Dangerous Offender (558.016 RSMo)                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Persistent Offender (558.016 RSMo)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Prior Offender (558.016 RSMo)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Persistent Domestic Violence Offender (565.063 RSMo)                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Prior Domestic Violence Offender (565.063 RSMo)                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Persistent Offender (Intoxication-related Traffic Offense) (577.023 RSMo) | <input type="checkbox"/> Prior Offender (Intoxication-related Traffic Offense) (577.023 RSMo) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aggravated Offender (577.023 RSMo)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic Offender (577.023 RSMo)                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable  |   |

on \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

The court:

- Informs the defendant of verdict/finding, asks the defendant whether (s)he has anything to say why judgment should not be pronounced, and finds that no sufficient cause to the contrary has been shown or appears to the court.
- Defendant has been advised of his/her rights to file a motion for post-conviction relief pursuant to Rule 24.035/29.15 and the court has found
  - Probable cause     No probable cause
 to believe that defendant has received ineffective assistance of counsel.
- Finds the defendant has pled or been found guilty of a dangerous felony, as defined in Section 556.061 RSMo, and if committed to the Department of Corrections, must serve at least 85% of the sentence.
- Finds the defendant has pled or been found guilty of an offense for which probation and parole are not authorized.

On count I, the Court:

Suspends imposition of sentence. Defendant is placed on probation for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ under the supervision of \_\_\_\_\_. Defendant shall comply with the conditions set forth in the separate Order of Probation.

Sentences and commits the defendant to the custody of DOC for a period of 4 years. Sentence to be served

Concurrent  Consecutive with \_\_\_\_\_.

Probation Time Credit: \_\_\_\_\_.

Suspends execution of sentence. Defendant is placed on probation for a period of 5 yrs under the supervision of P+P. Defendant shall comply with the conditions set forth in the separate Order of Probation.

Fines the defendant \$ \_\_\_\_\_. The court stays \$ \_\_\_\_\_ with the remainder due by \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

On count \_\_\_\_\_, the Court:

Suspends imposition of sentence. Defendant is placed on probation for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ under the supervision of \_\_\_\_\_. Defendant shall comply with the conditions set forth in the separate Order of Probation.

Sentences and commits the defendant to the custody of \_\_\_\_\_ for a period of \_\_\_\_\_. Sentence to be served

Concurrent  Consecutive with \_\_\_\_\_.

Probation Time Credit: \_\_\_\_\_.

Suspends execution of sentence. Defendant is placed on probation for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ under the supervision of \_\_\_\_\_. Defendant shall comply with the conditions set forth in the separate Order of Probation.

Fines the defendant \$ \_\_\_\_\_. The court stays \$ \_\_\_\_\_ with the remainder due by \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

On count \_\_\_\_\_, the Court:

Suspends imposition of sentence. Defendant is placed on probation for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ under the supervision of \_\_\_\_\_. Defendant shall comply with the conditions set forth in the separate Order of Probation.

Sentences and commits the defendant to the custody of \_\_\_\_\_ for a period of \_\_\_\_\_. Sentence to be served

Concurrent  Consecutive with \_\_\_\_\_.

Probation Time Credit: \_\_\_\_\_.

Suspends execution of sentence. Defendant is placed on probation for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ under the supervision of \_\_\_\_\_. Defendant shall comply with the conditions set forth in the separate Order of Probation.

Fines the defendant \$ \_\_\_\_\_. The court stays \$ \_\_\_\_\_ with the remainder due by \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

The court orders:

- The clerk to deliver a certified copy of the judgment and commitment to the sheriff.
- The sheriff to authorize one additional officer/guard to transport defendant to the Department of Corrections.
- That judgment is entered in favor of the state of Missouri and against the defendant for the crime victims compensation fund for the sum of
  - \$10.00     \$46.00     \$68.00.
  - Satisfied                       Unsatisfied
- Judgment for the State of Missouri and against the defendant for appointed counsel services in the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Satisfied                       Unsatisfied
- Costs taxed against
- Costs waived.
- Defendant to report immediately to the \_\_\_\_\_ Department for fingerprinting. The Defendant is ordered to submit to the fingerprinting, and is further ordered to provide all information necessary for the officer taking the fingerprints to fully complete all identification and photograph portions of the standard fingerprint cards.

- §217.785 RSMo Missouri Post Conviction Drug Treatment Program
  - Non-Institutional                       Institutional
- §217.362 RSMo Court Ordered Long-Term Substance Abuse Program
- §217.378 RSMo Regimented Discipline Program
- The court sentences §559.115(2) RSMo General Population Department of Corrections shall provide a report and recommendation whether probation should be granted.

The court recommends placement to:

- §559.115(3) RSMo Institutional Treatment Program Department of Corrections shall provide a report and recommendation whether probation should be granted. (Statutory Discharge)
- §559.115(3) RSMo Sexual Offender Assessment Unit Department of Corrections shall provide a report and recommendation whether probation should be granted.
- §559.115(3) RSMo Shock Incarceration Program Department of Corrections shall provide a report and recommendation whether probation should be granted. (Statutory Discharge)

The court further orders: \_\_\_\_\_

So Ordered:

9/30/08  
Date

[Signature]  
Judge

I certify that the above is a true copy of the original Judgment and Sentence of the court in the above cause, as it appears on record in my office.

(Seal of Circuit Court)

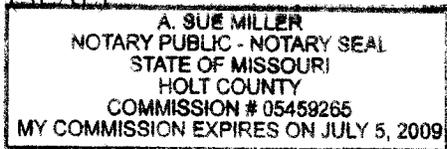
Issued on \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

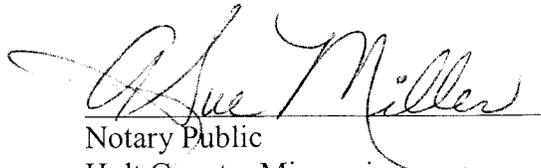
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk



Sworn and subscribed to before me this 18<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2007.

(SEAL)



  
Notary Public  
Holt County, Missouri

My Commission Expires:

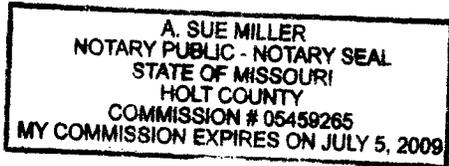
WITNESSES:

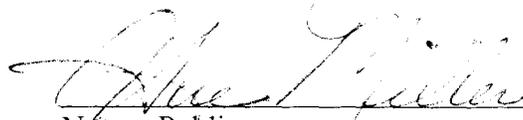
Mrs. Margaret "Peggy Ann" Edwards – Mayor - City of Forest City, MO 64451  
Diana Closterman, CPA – Westbrook & Co., 205 W. Main, Richmond, MO 64085  
HCSD Sgt. Larry Helfers – Holt County Sheriff's Dept., Oregon, MO 64473



Sworn and subscribed to before me this 8<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2007.

(SEAL)



  
Notary Public  
Holt County, Missouri

My Commission Expires:

WITNESSES:

**Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon**  
Governor



**George A. Lombardi**  
Director

**State of Missouri**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**Board of Probation and Parole**

*Ad Exelleum Conamur - "We Strive Towards Excellence"*

RE: Discharge from Supervision  
Offender Name: Ronnie Jo Cotton  
Docket # 07J9-CR00029-01  
Offense: PG: Stealing

Dear Ronnie Jo,

This letter is notification that you have been discharged from supervision by the Missouri Board of Probation and Parole effective April 2, 2013.

Upon being discharged from supervision, most people have their right to vote restored. Under Missouri law, qualified citizens may register in person at the office of their local election authority, the driver's license office or by mail at a participating State agency. If you have questions regarding your right to vote, you should contact your local County Clerk's office, your local Board of Election Commissioners, or the Secretary of State's Office.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Wiederholt  
Probation and Parole Officer

REC'D AUG 22 2014

## Explanation of Criminal Record:

In 2003 I was asked to become the City Clerk in Forest City, MO by the Mayor who was a friend of my husbands family. We lived in Oregon, MO at the time (only about 2 miles away) and my husband and I both worked nights at a casino in White Cloud, KS. They had been having trouble with their current City Clerk and found some misappropriation of funds. They were going to be terminating her at the next City Council meeting and wanted someone in there that could start right away.

We had just had our first child in November of that year but since it was early morning hours only I agreed to take the job to help them out. I believe I started in January or February of 2004. When I took over the position I had no training on how anything was done and was kind of left to figure it out myself. Some of their bank accounts were in the red at the time but that was a known fact.

When the next election came around the Mayor resigned and we received quite a few new council members as well.

While I was clerk we had monthly city council meetings where my work was reviewed. The Mayor and council members signed off on monthly reports and things were going very well.

I worked in that position until August of 2006 when my husband and I decided to move back to Faucett, MO where I was originally from before our daughter started Pre-School. I left the position in August of 2006 but not before training the man (Ron Amos) who was taking over for me. We moved back to Faucett in December of that year.

When we moved back to Faucett my husband and I both quit our jobs at the casino in White Cloud, KS and I started working for the St. Joe Frontier Casino and he went to work for Sara Lee Foods. In February of 2007 I received a call from my mother in law who lived in Forest City and she stated she heard a rumor that I was being sued for embezzlement by the city. That was the first I had heard of it so I called the Mayor at the time and asked her about the rumor. She denied knowing anything about it and only stated that the city was going through an audit because one had not been done since before I took the position.

In October (I believe) of 2007 I was arrested at my place of employment (St. Joe Frontier Casino) on the charge of embezzlement. I was bonded out that night and immediately started trying to figure out what was going on. I made many phone calls in the following weeks to people whom I knew lived in the town. Unfortunately, the situation was this: the clerk that was let go when I took over had an uncle that was now running for City Council. With the audit being done and the funds missing that had been missing for years, the council said someone should be charged with the crime. Since there was no audit done when I took over the position it fell back on me.

REC'D AUG 22 2014

I hired an attorney and we fought the case for over a year. It kind of came down to a "he said she said" case in a small town where I was the outsider. My attorney requested the copies of deposit slips I had made weekly as well as the monthly ledgers that had been signed off on monthly by the Mayor and council. We were told that they were no longer in the office because it had been two years almost since I had worked there.

My attorney continued to fight the case and after talking with the prosecuting attorney and upon the advice of my attorney I pleaded guilty after almost a year and a half in court.

The maximum charge for embezzlement is seven years in prison. The prosecuting attorney assured my attorney that if I would plead guilty he would request no jail time as long as I agreed to restitution. My decision was based solely on these facts:

1. I had a four year old daughter at home to think about. If I was gone for seven years that is a huge impact on her life. A felony on my record doesn't affect her at all.
2. All the documentation that was needed to back my case was "gone". I had nothing to stand on except the few people from that town who agreed to testify as character witnesses for me and my word of honor.
3. My attorney felt that since I was an "outsider" in the town and the former clerk was from there they would believe her word over mine.

I pled guilty in October of 2008. I ended up serving 60 days in jail, five years probation and paying over \$20,000 in restitution as well as over \$10,000 in attorney fees. I paid the restitution off early and have put this behind me as best I can. I am haunted daily with the "what-if's".

If I had went ahead and fought the case through to the end would they have believed me or her? If I had fought it and lost would I have served the jail time? Was pleading guilty the correct thing to do when I knew the truth?

The only justification I have is my daughter. I couldn't stand the thought of not being there for her and for that simple fact I will never regret the decisions I made (except for agreeing to take that job in the first place). It was the hardest thing I have ever had to do. I served my jail time quietly, I served my five years probation with no violations or problems and I paid off the restitution early to be done with it all and try to put it in my past and move on.

I went on to complete my college education and received my Associates Degree in Business Management even though I knew it would probably not serve me any use in the future. I wanted to know that I could still do it and with faith in God above I could move on from this and overcome the obstacles thrown at me.

Rennell Jo Cotton

REC'D AUG 22 2014

## Explanation of Activities/Jobs/School

I'm not really sure where to begin for this letter. I try to stay active in the school and community whenever possible. I enjoy being around people and use every opportunity I can to help others.

### Mid-Buchanan:

In 2009 I joined the Mid-Buchanan PTO as their Secretary. I served in that capacity for a number of years before becoming the Vice President in 2013. I served as the VP for one year and am currently the President of the PTO.

I have been a head room parent for my daughter's class since she started Pre-School there and she will be in fifth grade this year.

I served for many years on the Reading Wall Committee and Little Red School House Committee.

I have substituted in the kitchen for the school a few times over the years.

I have been employed by Jarnik Buses since 2009 and have driven a school bus for Mid-Buchanan for the last six years.

### Jobs:

Currently, my full time position is for Susan J Campbell Copywriting Solutions. I work from home as a contract employee. I do a lot of editing, advertising, website building, conference scheduling and much more. I started as a writer for Susan in 2011.

I have worked for Jarnik Buses since 2009 when our daughter started Kindergarten. I am currently giving that position up which is why I am interested in substitute teaching. I love being around the kids but the company sold out to a non-local business and I feel that it is time to step aside.

I am a paid employee of Faucett Baptist Church where I was born and raised and still attend. I watch the nursery every Sunday for them.

### Volunteer:

Aside from my volunteer hours at Mid-Buchanan school I also am the Chairman of the Youth Council and Childrens Council at our church. I have been the Treasurer, Facilities Scheduler, Christmas Program Director and the Vacation Bible School Director for the past seven years. I have coached t-ball and softball for a number of years in our community as well.

REC'D AUG 22 2014

Education:

I am a 1996 graduate of Mid-Buchanan High School. A number of years later I decided it was time to get my college education and attended American Intercontinental University online and received a 3.16 GPA with my Associates Degree in Business Management.

Ronell Jo Cotton

REC'D AUG 22 2014

## Statement Regarding Teaching

Being around children and helping them learn and grow is something I am passionate about. My husband and I lost our first child when I was only six months along in the pregnancy. After a few years we decided to try again and had our daughter, Alexis. She has been one of the greatest joys in my life. After such a very hard time in the first pregnancy and being scared to try again; when things turned out great the second time around I decided I was done.

Filling that gap/void of not having more kids has been my love for children in general. I have watched the nursery at our church for a number of years now and have been a school bus driver at Mid-Buchanan for the last six years. I serve as the head of the Children and Youth Council at our church and do all I can for them as well.

Not only do I feel that each child deserves the best education possible, I feel their need for someone they can trust is just as great. My daughter's friends know they have an open line of communication with me and I would do anything in the world for any of them. I feel that children need a positive role model to look up to and that by being that person to them it brings me a little bit of joy myself.

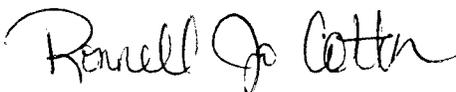
Driving the school bus for the past six years has been wonderful. Unfortunately, the company I worked for sold out and with the changes being made I felt it was time to step aside. Because I am so involved with the school, I know they are in need of more substitute teachers. Because I know a majority of the students/parents in our district I felt this was my opportunity to help out in an area of need.

I would be happy to answer any and all questions you may have about any of the information you receive from me today. My contact information is as follows:

Ronnell Cotton  
PO Box 123  
Faucett, MO 64448  
816-238-4568  
816-261-6769  
[ronnell.cotton@att.net](mailto:ronnell.cotton@att.net)

I know at least one of my references referred to me as Ronny Jo instead of Ronnell. I rarely use the name Ronnell even though that is my legal name. Ronny Jo is a family nickname that I have used for the past 30+ years and what most people know me by. I just wanted to clarify that so that there was no confusion.

Sincerely,



Ronnell Jo Cotton

REC'D AUG 22 2014

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing this letter to recommend Ronny Jo Cotton as a substitute teacher for the Mid Buchanan School District or any surrounding districts. I believe she is the perfect candidate for this position.

I have known Ronny Jo for seven years. I first met her when I was her daughter's preschool teacher. We had a great parent/teacher relationship for the two years her daughter was in preschool. She was our head room parent and I was impressed with the involvement she had with her daughter and the school. She planned and facilitated most of our parties and had great interaction with the children in the class.

Ronny Jo became a school bus driver for our district in 2009 and does a great job. She is very punctual and reliable in that position and again, is great with the children ranging from preschool to highschool students.

Becoming a member of our PTO in 2009, Ronny Jo first served as secretary. She became vice president in 2012-2013 and currently holds the position as president. She puts in countless volunteer hours into this job in order to make our school and activities very successful. She has also volunteered for our school by running the Little Red School House and has helped our principal with the reading wall.

Ronny Jo has been very active in her church for many years. She works diligently to make the youth program successful. Some of her titles at her church include treasurer, Head of Youth Council, Facilities Scheduler, Nursery worker, and has been the VBS Director since 2007.

I am confident that Ronny Jo would make a wonderful substitute teacher. She is very passionate about our school and the children. She is a very reliable, punctual, and organized individual. She would be a definite asset to any school district. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at [mdennis@midbuchanan.k12.mo.us](mailto:mdennis@midbuchanan.k12.mo.us).

Sincerely,

Melissa Dennis

REC'D AUG 22 2014

To Whom it May Concern;

I was asked to write a letter of reference for Mrs. Ronnell Cotton who is applying for a substitute teaching position with Mid-Buchanan School.

I first met Mrs. Cotton when we were on the Mid-Buchanan PTO Board together. I saw how dedicated she was to the role and determined to get things done and believed she would be a great fit for my company. I talked with her a few times about coming to work for me as a writer/editor and she agreed.

Mrs. Cotton has worked for me now for the past three years and has been a great asset to my company. She has moved on from the writer/editor position to handling just about anything we throw at her. We never have to worry about whether projects will be completed on time because she is very punctual and reliable in her work.

Mrs. Cotton is very involved in the community as well. She has stayed on the PTO Board and is the current PTO President. She has been a school bus driver for many years and has served at the school in a number of other capacities. She is actively involved in her church in various roles, including one of leadership with youth and children.

I have no hesitation in giving a recommendation for Mrs. Cotton for a substitute teaching position. She is extremely responsible and loves being around children. She is dedicated to whatever she is doing and would be an excellent role model for the kids/teens at the school.

Susan J Campbell  
Owner: Susan J Campbell Copywriting Solutions  
[susan@susanjcampbell.com](mailto:susan@susanjcampbell.com)

REC'D AUG 22 2014

**One Step Ahead Early Learning Center LLC.  
3712 Pacific Street  
St. Joseph, MO 64507  
816-364-5437**

It is without any reservations that I recommend Ronny Jo Cotton to work in an educational setting with children. We have known each other both personally and professionally for over 25 years. In that time I have watched her commit herself not only to our school, but to our community. We have worked side by side as volunteers on many different boards for our school as well as church at which she has always put the children's best interest first. I as well as others on those boards have recommended Mrs. Cotton for additional projects to better the time children spent in our school.

Many of the parents, children, staff, and administrators feel Mrs. Cotton is a positive example in our school. She consistently goes above and beyond the parameters of her volunteer work to make our school and church an enjoyable and educational environment for all involved.

As the owner and director of One Step Ahead Early Learning Center LLC, I have had the opportunity to have her working with my own program as a volunteer. We have recently discussed her working as a substitute in that program if needed. I have run a quality childcare center for over 10 years and would have her in my program with the children without any concerns.

It is in my opinion any school would be adding a great asset to their program by having Ronny Jo employed with them. If you need any additional information I can be reached at the number listed above. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,

Tiffany Brinton  
Owner/Director  
One Step Ahead

REC'D AUG 22 2014