

**MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA ITEM: September 2018****CONSIDERATION OF APPEAL BY THERESE IRENE MERES  
OF THE DENIAL OF CERTIFICATION****STATUTORY AUTHORITY:**

Section 168.071, RSMo

Consent  
ItemAction  
ItemReport  
Item**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**

Applicant's Name: Therese Irene Meres

Denial: On June 12, 2018, the Office of Educator Quality denied Ms. Meres' request for a initial substitute certificate, based upon her criminal history.

On June 22, 2018, Ms. Meres requested that the Commissioner review the decision made by the Office of Educator Quality.

On November 22, 2000, Ms. Meres pled Nolo Contendere to the Felony, Grand Theft and was placed on three years of supervised probation. Conditions of Ms. Meres' probation included payment of fees and \$8,919.34 in restitution to Diane Keller Realty. Ms. Meres' violated her probation conditions by not paying restitution as stated in the probation agreement. On September 4, 2003, Ms. Meres' probation was terminated and the restitution in the amount of \$5,578.19 was reduced to a civil lien.

Letters of Recommendation: Five (Joyce Levin, M.Ed., LPC, WGU Clinical Supervisor; Jessica Bowman, Special Ed. English/ASC Teacher, Parkway West High School; Christina Tunks, friend; Christina V. Johnson, friend; Larry Hoffman, former employer)

**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 approve Ms. Meres' application for an initial educator certificate.