

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of Review for **Amaechi U. Akpa**, Case No. **C-2013-114R**

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**SUBMITTED BY:** Charles Easaw, Chief Investigator, Investigative Unit, State Board of Education

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**MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW:** June 5, 2014

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

**Amaechi Akpa** applied for a Substitute teaching certificate on September 3, 2013, and answered “yes” to the application questions:

Have you ever been convicted of any felony offense?

Have you ever been arrested for any offense for which you were fingerprinted?

Mr. Akpa was convicted of wire fraud on April 18, 2003 by the United States District Court. He was originally sentenced to 24 months of incarceration and a three year term of supervised release, later amended, with restitution of approximately \$60,000.00.

Mr. Akpa signed a plea agreement in which he claimed a loss by theft and was convicted of participating in a scheme to defraud or to obtain money or property by means or material false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises.

*On October 5, 2005, Mr. Akpa applied for teacher certification. The Professional Practices Advisory Committee (“PPAC”) reviewed his application on February 14, 2006. The PPAC recommended denial of his application for certification with a 6-0 vote. Subsequently, Mr. Akpa withdrew his application for certification.*

Mr. Akpa applied for teacher certification and was advised that his 2013 application required a review by the PPAC of the State Board of Education (“State Board”).

*On March 11, 2014 the PPAC reviewed Mr. Akpa’s application packet. The PPAC found that the application was substantively incomplete because Mr. Akpa failed to include all the requested letters of references. Mr. Akpa then provided two additional letters of reference.*

On May 13, 2014, the PPAC conducted a review of Mr. Akpa’s application.

The PPAC found the following mitigating factors:

- Length of time elapsed since the conviction

The PPAC found the following aggravating factors:

- Restitution still in arrears approximately \$52, 000.00
- Failure to comply with the provisions of repayment.
- Within the last several months more than one instance of delinquent payments for \$25.00, which is amount due monthly.

By a vote of 5 to 0, the PPAC recommended that the State Board **deny Amaechi Akpa's** application for certification.

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:** [ ] INFORMATION [X] ACTION/DESCRIBED BELOW:

That the Board accept the recommendation of the PPAC to **deny Amaechi Akpa's** application for certification.

**ATTACHMENTS: YES [X] NO [ ]**