## TEXAS EDUCATION CODE TITLE 2. PUBLIC EDUCATION SUBTITLE D. EDUCATORS AND SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS CHAPTER 22. SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS SUBCHAPTER C. CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS

## TEC, §22.093. REQUIREMENT TO REPORT EMPLOYEE MISCONDUCT.

- (a) In this section, "abuse" has the meaning assigned by Section <u>261.001</u>, Family Code, and includes any sexual conduct involving a student or minor.
- (b) This section applies to a person who is employed by a school district, district of innovation, openenrollment charter school, other charter entity, regional education service center, or shared services arrangement and who does not hold a certification or permit issued under Subchapter B, Chapter <u>21</u>.
- (c) In addition to the reporting requirement under Section <u>261.101</u>, Family Code, the superintendent or director of a school district, district of innovation, open-enrollment charter school, other charter entity, regional education service center, or shared services arrangement shall notify the commissioner if:
  - (1) an employee's employment at the school district, district of innovation, charter school, other charter entity, service center, or shared services arrangement was terminated and there is evidence that the employee:
    - (A) abused or otherwise committed an unlawful act with a student or minor; or
    - (B) was involved in a romantic relationship with or solicited or engaged in sexual contact with a student or minor; or
  - (2) the employee resigned and there is evidence that the employee engaged in misconduct described by Subdivision (1).
- (d) A superintendent or director of a school district, district of innovation, open-enrollment charter school, other charter entity, regional education service center, or shared services arrangement shall complete an investigation of an employee that involves evidence that the employee may have engaged in misconduct described by Subsection (c)(1)(A) or (B), despite the employee's resignation from employment before completion of the investigation.
- (e) The principal of a school district, district of innovation, open-enrollment charter school, or other charter entity campus must notify the superintendent or director of the school district, district of innovation, charter school, or other charter entity not later than the seventh business day after the date of an employee's termination of employment or resignation following an alleged incident of misconduct described by Subsection (c)(1)(A) or (B).
- (f) The superintendent or director must notify the commissioner by filing a report with the commissioner not later than the seventh business day after the date the superintendent or director receives a report from a principal under Subsection (e) or knew about an employee's termination of employment or resignation following an alleged incident of misconduct described by Subsection (c)(1)(A) or (B). The report must be:
  - (1) in writing; and
  - (2) in a form prescribed by the commissioner.

- (g) The superintendent or director shall notify the board of trustees or governing body of the school district, district of innovation, open-enrollment charter school, other charter entity, regional education service center, or shared services arrangement and the employee of the filing of the report required by Subsection (f).
- (h) A superintendent or director who in good faith and while acting in an official capacity files a report with the commissioner under Subsection (f) or a principal who in good faith and while acting in an official capacity notifies a superintendent or director under Subsection (e) is immune from civil or criminal liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed.
- (i) The commissioner shall refer an educator who fails to file a report in violation of Subsection (f) to the State Board for Educator Certification, and the board shall determine whether to impose sanctions against the educator.
- (j) The name of a student or minor who is the victim of abuse or unlawful conduct by an employee must be included in a report filed under this section, but the name of the student or minor is not public information under Chapter <u>552</u>, Government Code.
- (k) A superintendent or director required to file a report under Subsection (f) commits an offense if the superintendent or director fails to file the report by the date required by that subsection with intent to conceal an employee's criminal record or alleged incident of misconduct. A principal required to notify a superintendent or director about an employee's alleged incident of misconduct under Subsection (e) commits an offense if the principal fails to provide the notice by the date required by that subsection with intent to conceal an employee's alleged incident of misconduct. An offense under this subsection is a state jail felony.
- (1) The commissioner may review the records of a school district, district of innovation, openenrollment charter school, other charter entity, regional education service center, or shared services arrangement to ensure compliance with the requirement to report misconduct under this section.
- (m) The commissioner shall adopt rules as necessary to implement this section.