



May 7, 2010

ATTORNEY GENERAL MADIGAN SECURES RESIGNATION OF SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT CHARLES FLOWERS***Agreement Requires Dr. Charles A. Flowers to Immediately Surrender Administrative Certificates***

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan has reached an agreement with Regional Superintendent Dr. Charles A. Flowers that requires he step down immediately from his elected position with the Suburban Cook County Regional Office of Education. Dr. Flowers' resignation is the result of Attorney General Madigan's administrative proceeding initiated in July 2009 on behalf of the Illinois State Superintendent of Education, alleging that Dr. Flowers failed to legally, promptly and effectively perform his duties as Regional Superintendent.

"Public servants are entrusted to work honestly and in the best interest of the public," said Attorney General Madigan. "This agreement removes Dr. Flowers from office and takes away from him the authority to make any decisions that impact the children and families within Suburban Cook County Schools."

In addition to Dr. Flowers' immediate resignation from his elected position, the agreement requires the State Board of Education to suspend his administrative certificates for a period of four years. Additionally, the agreement states that if Dr. Flowers pleads guilty to, or is convicted of, a felony arising out of his duties as Regional Superintendent, he must immediately and permanently surrender all of his administrative and teaching certificates, which will eliminate his ability to hold an administrative or teaching position in any public school district in the State of Illinois.

In January, the Cook County State's Attorney's Office charged Dr. Flowers with criminal conduct with respect to his alleged unlawful personal use of cash advances from a work-related credit card. These criminal charges followed a 2009 civil suit brought by the Cook County State's Attorney's Office against Dr. Flowers, with respect to his office's failure to repay a \$190,000 loan authorized by the Cook County Board of Commissioners in 2008. Today's agreement does not resolve those pending criminal charges or civil lawsuits against Dr. Flowers.

Carl Bergetz, Chief of the Special Litigation Bureau, and Assistant Attorneys General Jon Rosenblatt, Harpreet Khera and Barbara Delano handled the matter.

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