

## Professional Teaching Standards Board

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Date: July 6, 2011  
To: Superintendents, HR Directors, and Principals  
From: Teresa L. Sexton, PTSB Executive Director  
Re: PTSB District Trainings, Sign Language Interpreter Permits, and Criminal Background Checks

This past year, PTSB began an initiative to provide training/information sessions to district personnel in order to facilitate better understanding of the licensure process and to provide districts with an open “question & answer” session with one of our evaluators. We were very pleased that some districts took advantage of this opportunity and found it valuable.

This memo addresses two important questions that were brought up during one of these training sessions:

- 1) **Will Education Sign Language Interpreters be able to obtain an Exception Authorization for this year?**

**Answer:** Yes. Option 3 of the Exception Authorization (EA) application includes a provision for any “related services” personnel. However, please keep in mind that this EA is for one year and is NON-RENEWABLE. Therefore, your ESLI’s will need to ensure that they have met the new requirements prior to the expiration of their EA. No extensions will be given beyond the EA expiration date.

- 2) **Does PTSB notify the district if an applicant has a “hit” on his or her Department of Criminal Investigation background check?**

**Answer:** No. Legally, we cannot share that information with any other person or entity except the applicant (who must sign a release).

If you have any further questions regarding either of these two issues, please do not hesitate to contact our office at the numbers above. If you are interested in learning more about PTSB trainings, please contact Nannette Tardif at (307) 777-7294.