



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2008

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Former Commission Executive Director Passes Away After Long Illness

SACRAMENTO – Sam W. Swofford, Ed.D., the longest serving Executive Director of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, passed away January 1, 2008, after a long illness. Dr. Swofford began his tenure with the Commission in April of 1996. After serving over 10 years with the Commission, he retired in August of 2006.

As the Commission's Executive Director, Dr. Swofford led several reform efforts in educator preparation including: strengthening and streamlining the California credentialing structure; updating the computer technology system to facilitate faster credential application processing; ensuring that teacher preparation programs offered by institutions of higher education and local education agencies were aligned with the K-12 academic content standards; and assisting school districts in reducing their reliance on emergency permit teachers.

Highlights of Dr. Swofford's career in education include his work as an elementary teacher in the San Lorenzo Unified School District, personnel administration for the Cupertino Union School District, and Superintendent of Schools for Lodi Unified School District. Dr. Swofford also served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War.

Memorial Service

Monday, January 7, 2008
10:00 a.m.
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
701 Pleasant Avenue
Lodi, CA
(209) 368-2747

A reception will be held at the church from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

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