



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION  
2019-62A

Cathy Kirkpatrick, Executive Director  
State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners  
2920 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite C  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

February 20, 2019

Dear Executive Director Kirkpatrick:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding action the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners proposes to take against W.H., who the Board believes practiced veterinary medicine without a license. The Board proposes to issue a Notice of Possible Violation.

The Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act authorizes the Board to “regulate the practice of veterinary medicine.” 59 O.S.2011, § 698.7. This includes the authority “to halt the unlicensed or illegal practice of veterinary medicine and seek administrative, criminal and civil penalties against those engaged in such practice.” *Id.* § 698.7(10). The Board may reasonably believe that the proposed action is necessary to protect the public from unlicensed persons and to deter future violations.

It is, therefore, the official opinion of the Attorney General that the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners has adequate support for the conclusion that this action advances the State’s policy of protecting the consumers of veterinary services against an unlicensed persons practicing veterinary medicine.

MIKE HUNTER  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA

AMANDA OTIS  
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL