



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION  
2017-714A

Kim Glazier, Executive Director  
Oklahoma Board of Nursing  
2915 N. Classen Blvd., Suite. 524  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106

October 11, 2017

Dear Executive Director Glazier:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding action that the Oklahoma Board of Nursing intends to take pursuant to consent agreement in Board case 6.070.17. The proposed action is to accept the voluntary surrender of the licensee's RN license for no less than 1 year and require the licensee to submit to an evaluation by a licensed psychologist.

The licensee is a registered nurse (RN). On February 2, 2017, the Arizona Board of Nursing accepted the voluntary surrender of the licensee's RN license based on the licensee having been admitted, under a Court ordered evaluation, to a psychiatric hospital for mental health issues. The licensee has requested to voluntarily surrender the licensee's Oklahoma RN license.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act authorizes the Board to impose discipline when a nurse "[h]as had disciplinary actions taken against the individual's registered . . . nursing license . . . in this or any state, territory or country[.]" 59 O.S.Supp.2016, § 567.8(B)(10). The Act gives the executive director of the Board the authority to accept "[a]greed disciplinary orders for the voluntary surrender of a license[.]" *Id.* § 567.4(F)(3)(d). The Board may reasonably believe that surrender of the licensee's RN license will protect patients and ensure safe nursing practice in the future.

It is, therefore, the official opinion of the Attorney General that the Oklahoma Board of Nursing has adequate support for the conclusion that this action advances the State's policy to protect public health, safety, and welfare by ensuring nurses meet minimum standards of professional conduct.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Hunter".

MIKE HUNTER  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Chaffin".

RYAN CHAFFIN  
DEPUTY CHIEF – ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL