



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

**ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION  
2016-83A**

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

February 11, 2016

Dear Executive Director Glazier:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding agency action to be taken by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing in Board case 3.139.16. The proposed action is to require the licensee to complete courses in nursing law and nursing ethics; to reprimand the licensee; and to impose fines and costs totaling \$1,477.20. The licensee requested a letter of recommendation for joining a military service's nursing corps. After receiving the letter, the licensee edited it to change the relevant experience in a favorable way, forged a signature on the document, and submitted it to the military service. The licensee admitted to the underlying conduct, and it is likely that the licensee will never be able to enter military service.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act, 59 O.S.2011 & Supp.2015, §§ 567.1–567.20, authorizes the Board to impose discipline when nurses are guilty of “unprofessional conduct as defined in the rules of the Board,” 59 O.S.Supp.2015, § 567.8(B)(7). The Board’s rules define “unprofessional conduct” to include “impersonating another licensed or certified practitioner . . . for any purpose.” OAC 485:10-11-1(b)(3)(L). In light of the context of the case, the Board’s decision to impose fines, education, and a reprimand is reasonably necessary to advance the statutory requirements.

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 of Oklahoma’s policy of upholding minimum standards of professionalism within the nursing profession.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Scott Pruitt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

E. SCOTT PRUITT  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA