



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION  
2015-165A

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

November 18, 2015

Dear Executive Director Glazier:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding agency action that the Oklahoma Board of Nursing intends to take in Board case 10.053.16. The proposed action is to deny an application for licensure. The applicant has a 1994 conviction for assault with a deadly weapon for which the applicant was eventually sentenced to prison; after being released in 2006, the applicant went on to face a convictions for stalking and for domestic abuse with a motor vehicle during 2013 and 2014.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act, 59 O.S.2011 & Supp.2015, §§ 567.1–567.20, authorizes the Board to deny licensee for persons “guilty of a felony, or any offense reasonably related to the qualifications, functions or duties of any licensee . . . , or any offense an essential element of which is fraud, dishonesty, or an act of violence,” 59 O.S.Supp.2015, § 567.8(B)(2). The Board may be reasonably concerned that the acts of violence or threats of violence contemplated by the applicant’s criminal history—along with the recency of the last convictions—militates against grant of a license. Professional nurses may be faced with tense and difficult situations in which a violent reaction may harm patients.

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 to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Scott Pruitt".

E. SCOTT PRUITT  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA