



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION  
2016-695A

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

November 16, 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 pursuant to a consent agreement in Board case 3.122.17. The proposed action is to reprimand the license, impose a \$500 fine, and require completion of courses in nursing law and patient rights. While working in a long term care center, the licensee violated a resident's right by taking a book away and demanded the resident get out of bed to take a shower, which the resident had repeatedly refused to do. The resident claimed the licensee forced the resident into a sitting position by lifting the resident's arm. The resident was alert and physically capable of sitting up without assistance.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act, 59 O.S.2011 & Supp.2016, §§ 567.1–567.20, authorizes the Board to impose discipline when a nurse “fails to adequately care for patients or to conform to the minimum standards of acceptable nursing” in a way that “exposes a patient or other person to risk of harm” or is “guilty of unprofessional conduct,” 59 O.S.Supp.2016, § 567.8(B)(3), (7). The action enforces requirements that nurses treat patients carefully, professionally, and with dignity. The Board may reasonably believe that the disciplinary action, including additional education, is necessary to prevent future violations.

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 by ensuring nurses provide adequate care and meet minimum standards of professionalism.

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

E. SCOTT PRUITT  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA