



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION
2017-744A

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

October 20, 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 a consent agreement in case 3.111.18. The Board proposes to require the licensee to (i) submit an evaluation by a licensed psychologist for Board review, (ii) practice under supervision until the evaluation is reviewed, (iii) complete additional education courses, and (iv) pay a \$500 administrative penalty.

In August 2016, the licensee pled guilty to a felony count of Cruelty to Animals. The licensee has agreed to submit documentation of the successful completion of an evaluation.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act authorizes the Board to impose discipline when a nurse “[i]s guilty of a felony, or . . . any offense an essential element of which is fraud, dishonesty, or an act of violence, or for any offense involving moral turpitude.” 59 O.S.Supp.2016, § 567.8(B)(2). For violations of the Act, the Board may assess administrative penalties and “otherwise discipline licensees.” *Id.* § 567.8(A)(2)-(3). The Board may reasonably believe that the proposed action is necessary to deter 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’s policy to protect public health, safety, and welfare by ensuring nurses meet minimum standards of professional conduct.

MIKE HUNTER
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA

RYAN CHAFFIN
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