



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION
2017-776A

Richard Pierson, Executive Director
Oklahoma Board of Licensed Alcohol
and Drug Counselors
P.O. Box 54388
Oklahoma City, OK 73154

November 6, 2017

Dear Executive Director Pierson:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding action that the Oklahoma Board of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors intends to take with respect to Complaint #'s 426-0115, 427-0115, 465-1215, and 471-0216. On May 15, 2017, the Board entered Order against the licensee involved in each of these Complaints. *See* A.G. Opin. 2017-425A. The Order suspended the licensee's supervision privileges, with such suspension stayed so long as the licensee complied with conditions of the Order. The Order also required the licensee to (i) provide a copy of the Order to all supervisees and provide to the Board proof of receipt, (ii) submit documentation of supervision sessions prior to the Board's September meeting, and (iii) appear in person at the meeting. The licensee did not submit the requisite proof of receipt of the Order from supervisees or documentation of supervision sessions and failed to appear at the September Board meeting. The Board now proposes to lift the stay of the suspension of the licensee's supervision privileges.

The Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors Act authorizes the Board to discipline licensees who violate "any of the provisions of...[an] order issued [by the Board]." 59 O.S.2011, § 1875(9). The Board may reasonably believe that this action is necessary to ensure compliance with Board orders.

It is, therefore, the official opinion of the Attorney General that the Oklahoma Board of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors has adequate support for the conclusion that this action advances the State's policy to protect public health, safety, and welfare.

MIKE HUNTER
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA

RYAN CHAFFIN
DEPUTY CHIEF – ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL