

Office of Attorney General State of Oklahoma

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2018-129A

April 19, 2018

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

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 in case 10.027.18. The applicant currently holds a multistate license issued pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact (the "Compact") in the applicant's home state of Texas and is seeking to endorse the license to Oklahoma. Oklahoma has adopted the Compact as part of the Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act. Further, in November 2016, the applicant was charged with a felony and misdemeanor, and was sentenced for both counts.

The Compact provides that a party state shall not issue a single state license to a nurse who holds a multistate license issued by a different party state. *See* 59 O.S.Supp.2017, § 567.21. Additionally, the Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act authorizes the Board to deny an application for multistate privilege to practice in this State, when an applicant "[i]s guilty of unprofessional conduct[.]" *Id.* § 567.8(A)(1)(c), (B)(7). Unprofessional conduct, as defined by the Board, includes "conduct detrimental to the public interest[.]" OAC 485:10-11-1. Accordingly, the Board proposes to deny the application. The Board may reasonably believe that the proposed action is necessary to comply with the provisions of the Compact.

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 of allowing the Board to regulate the education, certification, licensure and practice of licensed nurses and to ensure that nurses meet minimum standards of professional conduct.

MIKE HUNTER ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA

Amanda Otis Assistant Attorney General

