

Office of Attorney General State of Oklahoma

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2018-141A

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 pursuant to a consent agreement in case 3.220.18. The licensee has previously been disciplined by the Board, and is now before the Board for performing an unauthorized restraint on a patient. The Board proposes to suspend the license for one month and require the licensee to complete remedial education courses. Upon reinstatement, the licensee must complete 1440 cumulative hours of supervised practice and pay an administrative penalty of \$500.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act 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 "unnecessarily exposes a patient or other person to risk of harm," "is guilty of unprofessional conduct," or "is guilty of any act that jeopardizes a patient's life, health or safety." 59 O.S.Supp.2017, § 567.8(B)(3), (7-8). The Board may reasonably believe that the proposed actions are 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

Amanda Otis Assistant Attorney General

