

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2018-171A

Jean Williams, Executive Director
Oklahoma Board of Governors of Licensed Architects,
Landscape Architects and Registered Interior Designers
P.O. Box 53430
Oklahoma City, OK 73152

May 24, 2018

Dear Executive Director Williams:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding action that the Board of Governors of the Licensed Architects, Landscape Architects and Registered Interior Designers of Oklahoma intends to take with respect to Ward Design Group ("Ward"). Ward is unlicensed by the Board and has falsely stated its qualifications and the kind of services it provides. The Board proposes to fine Ward \$500.

The State Architectural and Registered Interior Designers Act authorizes the Board to impose civil penalties for violations of the Act or any of its rules. 59 O.S.Supp.2017, § 46.18. The Act forbids "the practice of architecture, . . . use of the title 'Architect', . . . [or any other displays] tending to indicate that such person is an architect or is practicing architecture, unless the person is licensed under the provisions of [the Act]." *Id.* § 46.8a(A). Further, the Board may fine "[a]ny person or entity who has . . . violated any provision of the . . . Act . . . not more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each day that said violation continues." *Id.* § 46.18. 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 Board of Governors of Licensed Architects, Landscape Architects and Registered Interior Designers of Oklahoma has adequate support for the conclusion that this action advances the State's policy to ensure that architects are properly licensed when providing services.

MIKE HUNTER

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA

AMANDA OTIS

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL