

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2018-198A

Kim Glazier, Executive Director Oklahoma Board of Nursing 2915 N. Classen Blvd., Ste. 524 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106 June 13, 2018

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 3.054.18. In 2017, the licensee entered into an agreed order with the Board, but has since failed to comply with the order. The licensee has requested to be referred to the Board's Peer Assistance Program ("PAP"). The Board proposes to refer the licensee to PAP while the license will stay temporarily suspended. If the licensee does not complete PAP, the license will be revoked for two years and the licensee will be required to meet the Board's requirements for reinstatement and pay a penalty of \$500. Upon reinstatement, the licensee will be re-referred to PAP.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act authorizes the Board to impose discipline when a nurse "[i]s guilty of unprofessional conduct," or has "[v]iolated... an order of the Board." 59 O.S.Supp.2017, § 567.8(B)(7), (9). The Board may reasonably believe that the proposed action is necessary to prevent 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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