

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2018-202A

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 3.200.18. The licensee previously entered into an agreed order with the Board that required licensee to submit to an evaluation, among other things. The licensee has submitted the evaluation and requested a referral to the Board's Peer Assistant Program ("PAP"). The Board proposes to accept the evaluation and temporarily suspend the license pending acceptance to PAP. If the licensee does not complete PAP, the license will be revoked for two years, and the licensee will be required to pay a \$500 administrative penalty and meet the Board's guidelines for reinstatement. If reinstated, 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 . . . a state or federal narcotics or controlled dangerous substance law." 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

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