

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2018-203A

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 in case 3.214.18. In 2016, the licensee was charged with several felonies. The licensee has agreed to submit to an evaluation. The Board proposes to temporarily suspend the licensee pending review of the evaluation, during which time the licensee will be required to submit to periodic body fluid testing. The licensee will also be required to complete a remedial education course and pay a \$500administrative penalty.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act authorizes the Board to impose discipline when a nurse "[i]s guilty of a felony, or any offense reasonably related to the qualifications, functions or duties of any licensee" or "[i]s guilty of unprofessional conduct." 59 O.S.Supp.2017, § 567.8(B)(2), (7). 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 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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