

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2018-311A

Kim Glazier, Executive Director Oklahoma Board of Nursing 2915 N. Classen Blvd., Ste. 524 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106 August 14, 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 10.002.19. Between 1991 and 2012, the applicant was charged with 2 felonies and several misdemeanors. Nursing boards in Georgia and Arizona have denied the applicant's application for licensure. On March 29, 2017, the applicant submitted a RN endorsement application to the Board. The Board proposes to deny the application.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act authorizes the Board to deny licensure when a nurse "[i]s guilty of a felony, or any offense reasonably related to the qualifications, functions or duties of any licensee," "[i]s guilty of unprofessional conduct," or "[h]as had disciplinary actions taken against the individual's . . . license . . . in this or any state, territory or country." 59 O.S.Supp.2017, § 567.8(B)(2), (7), (10); See also OAC 485:10-11-1(b)(3)(H). The Board may reasonably believe that the proposed action is necessary to uphold the professional standards of licensed nurses.

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 that nurses meet minimum standards of professional conduct.

MIKE HUNTER

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA

RYAN CHAFFIN

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