

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2018-319A

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 pursuant to an emergency order of temporary suspension in case 3.007.19. A complaint filed with the Board on June 15, 2018 alleged that the licensee displayed impaired behavior while on duty. The complaint and a notice of hearing were mailed to the licensee by certified/restricted delivery at the address provided to the Board. Service was unsuccessful. On July 3, 2018, the Board hired a process server to serve the licensee, but that was also unsuccessful. The licensee has also failed to comply with Board investigations. The Board proposes to temporarily suspend the licensee's license pending a hearing on the complaint.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act authorizes the Board to discipline licensees that violate the Act and/or Board rules. 59 O.S.Supp.2017, § 567.8(A), (B). Board rules specifically provide that a "notice of change of address must be submitted in writing by each licensee within 30 days of the change." OAC 485:10-7-9(c). 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

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