

## ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2018-336A

Kim Glazier, Executive Director Oklahoma Board of Nursing 2915 N. Classen Blvd., Ste. 524 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106 August 23, 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 5.003.19. The licensee, who has been previously disciplined by the Board, tested positive for controlled dangerous substance medication on a pre-employment screening. The licensee was not employed as a nurse at the time of this screening. The Board proposes to require the licensee to pay an administrative penalty of \$250.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act authorizes corrective actions when a nurse "violates the Act or a rule" promulgated by the Board. 59 O.S.Supp.2017, § 567.8a(A). Corrective action includes "remedial education, an administrative penalty, or any combination" thereof. *Id.* It is a violation of the Board's rules to engage in "conduct detrimental to the public interest" OAC 485:10-11-1(b)(3)(H). 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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ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL