

Office of Attorney General State of Oklahoma

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2018-89A

March 20, 2018

Kim Glazier, Executive Director Oklahoma Board of Nursing 2915 N. Classen Blvd., Ste. 524 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106

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 regard to licensee WCH. The licensee plead guilty to several felonies and was sentenced 15 years in custody of the Department of Corrections, among other requirements and fines. The Board proposes to suspend the licensee until the Board acts upon the licensee's written application for reinstatement.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act requires the Board to "suspend the license of any person upon proof that the person has been sentenced to a period of continuous incarceration serving a penal sentence for commission of a misdemeanor or felony." 59 O.S.Supp.2017, § 567.8(N). That section further states that "[t]he suspension shall remain in effect until the Board acts upon the licensee's written application for reinstatement of the license." *Id.* The Board's action is mandated by statute and therefore the proposed action is necessary.

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

Amanda Otis Assistant Attorney General

