



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION
2018-249A

Richard Pierson, Executive Director
Oklahoma Board of Licensed Alcohol
and Drug Counselors
P.O. Box 54388
Oklahoma City, OK 73154

July 3, 2018

Dear Executive Director Pierson:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding action that the Oklahoma Board of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors intends to take with respect to licensee 213 regarding Complaints 426-0115, 427-0115, 465-1215, and 471-0216. On May 15, 2017, the Board entered an Order against the licensee that suspended the licensee's supervision privileges, with such suspension stayed so long as the licensee complied with certain conditions. The Order also required the licensee to pay a \$3,000 fine and \$750 in investigative costs. *See* A.G. Opin. 2017-425A. After the licensee failed to comply with the conditions set forth in the Order, the Board lifted the stay of the suspension on September 18, 2017. *See* A.G. Opin. 2017-776A. The Board revisited the matter at its November 6, 2017 meeting and determined that the licensee further failed to comply with the Order by failing to (i) appear at the meeting, (ii) pay the first installment of the fine, (iii) pay the investigative costs, and (iv) submit certain documentation. The Board now proposes to find the licensee ineligible to renew the license until the fine and investigative costs are paid in full and the required documentation has been submitted. The licensee's supervision privileges are to remain suspended and the license shall be on probation with conditions.

The Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors Act authorizes the Board to discipline licensees who violate "any . . . order issued pursuant [to the Act]." 59 O.S.2011, § 1875(9). The Board may reasonably believe that this action is necessary to ensure compliance with Board orders.

It is, therefore, the official opinion of the Attorney General that the Oklahoma Board of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors has adequate support for the conclusion that this action advances the State's policy to protect public health, safety, and welfare.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Hunter".

MIKE HUNTER
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Chaffin".

RYAN CHAFFIN
DEPUTY CHIEF ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL