



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION  
2017-88A

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

February 15, 2017

Dear Executive Director Glazier:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding agency action that the Oklahoma Board of Nursing intends to take pursuant to a consent agreement in Board case 3.166.17. The proposed action is to impose a reprimand, assess a \$500 fine, and require completion of courses in nursing law and critical thinking. The licensee failed to perform physician-ordered wound care on a resident at a long-term care center and was terminated.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act, 59 O.S.2011 & Supp.2016, §§ 567.1–567.20, authorizes the Board to discipline licensees who fail to provide “adequate[] care” in way that “exposes a patient or other person to risk of harm” and those who “jeopardize[] a patient’s life, health or safety as defined in the rules of the Board,” 59 O.S.Supp.2016, § 567.8(B)(3), (8). The Board’s rules include failure to utilize “appropriate judgment in administering safe nursing practice” as conduct that jeopardizes a patient’s life, health, or safety. OAC 485:10-11-1(b)(4)(D). The Board could reasonably believe that the licensee’s conduct threatened the patient’s health and safety. The proposed action is reasonably fashioned to deter future violations while equipping the licensee to continue practicing without error.

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 of Oklahoma’s policy requiring adequate nursing care that is safe for patients.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Pruitt", with a large, stylized flourish above the name.

E. SCOTT PRUITT  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA