

OFFICE OF THE Attorney General

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2023-12A

Tyler Stiles, Executive Director Oklahoma Funeral Board 3700 N. Classen Blvd., Suite 175 Oklahoma City, OK 73118 June 29, 2023

Re: Savage; Complaint No. 19-35

Dear Executive Director Styles:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding action that the Oklahoma Funeral Board intends to take with respect to complaint 19-35.

The Funeral Services Licensing Act ("Act") authorizes the Funeral Board to revoke any license for violations of the Act or Board rules promulgated thereunder. 59 O.S.2021, § 396.12c (5), (8). The Board's rules allow for license revocation upon a felony conviction. OAC 235:10-7-2(2). The Board may reasonably believe that the proposed action is necessary to deter future violations.

In 2018, Respondent pled guilty to felony charges of 1) preparation, distribution and exhibition of obscene material and 2) solicitation of a minor for indecent exposure/obscene material. Respondent was given prison sentences of ten (Count 1) and twenty years (Count 2), with all but the first four years suspended. Finding clear and convincing evidence of unprofessional conduct under OAC 235:10-7-2(2), the Board proposes to revoke Respondent's license.

It is, therefore, the official opinion of the Attorney General that the Oklahoma Funeral Board has adequate support for the conclusion that this action advances the State's policy to protect public health, welfare, and safety and to ensure funeral apprentices are adequately qualified.

Rob Johnson General Counsel