

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2024-21A

Steven Mullins, Executive Director State Board of Osteopathic Examiners 4848 N. Lincoln Blvd., Ste. 100 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105 April 9, 2024

Re: Hill, Case No. 319-025

Dear Executive Director Mullins:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding action that the State Board of Osteopathic Examiners intends to take in Case Number 319-025.

The Oklahoma Osteopathic Medicine Act authorizes the Board to "revoke any license issued" upon proof that the license holder has engaged in "acts of negligence, malpractice or incompetence, as determined by the Board." 59 O.S.Supp.2023, § 637(A)(4). Further, the Board may also take action when a license holder has failed to comply with provisions of any act or regulation administered by the Board," or "violated or refused to comply with a lawful order of the Board." *Id.* § 637(A)(7), (11).

According to a Board's March 2024 order, the Board suspended Respondent's license with conditions in May 2019. The order required Respondent to submit to a psychological evaluation and neurological-psychological testing prior to a subsequent Board appearance. *See* A.G. Op. 2019-234A. As of the date of the Board's March 2024, hearing, Respondent has not completed the Board's requirements. Respondent failed to appear at the conference or the March 2024, Board meeting. Finding clear and convincing evidence of grounds for discipline under 59 O.S.Supp.2023, § 637(A)(4), (7), (11), the Board proposes to revoke Respondent's license and notify all regulatory agencies, and any related care facilities in the area where Respondent previously practiced. The Board may reasonably believe the proposed action is necessary to deter future violations.

It is, therefore, the official opinion of the Attorney General that the State Board of Osteopathic Examiners has adequate support for the conclusion that this action advances the State's policy to protect the public welfare.

ROB JOHNSON