

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2017-855A

Kim Glazier, Executive Director Oklahoma Board of Nursing 2915 N. Classen Blvd., Ste. 524 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106 December 5, 2017

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 pursuant to a consent agreement in case 3.122.18. The licensee has requested to voluntarily surrender the RN license after admitting to practicing outside the scope of the licensee's practice. The Board proposes to accept the voluntary surrender of the RN license. Prior to reinstatement, the licensee will be required to complete education courses and pay an administrative penalty of \$1,000.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act authorizes the Board to impose discipline when a nurse "fails to adequately care for patients or to conform to the minimum standards of acceptable nursing" in a way that "unnecessarily exposes a patient or other person to risk of harm," "is guilty of unprofessional conduct," "is guilty of any act that jeopardizes a patient's life, health or safety," or "[v]iolate[s] a rule promulgated by the Board." 59 O.S.Supp.2017, § 567.8(B)(3), (7-9). The Board may reasonably believe that the proposed action is necessary to deter future violations.

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

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ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL