

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2017-856A

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 in case 3.124.18. The licensee admitted to misappropriating Controlled Dangerous Substance medications. The Board proposes to revoke the licensee's license for two years. Prior to reinstatement, the licensee will be required to meet Board guidelines. Upon reinstatement, the license will be temporarily suspended pending acceptance to the Board's Peer Assistance Program ("PAP"). If the licensee is not accepted or defaults from PAP, the license will be revoked for two years and the licensee will be required to pay an administrative penalty of \$1,500 and investigative costs of \$1,100.57.

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," "[i]s intemperate in the use of alcohol or drugs," "unnecessarily exposes a patient or other person to risk of harm," "is guilty of unprofessional conduct," or "[v]iolate[s] a rule promulgated by the Board." 59 O.S.Supp.2017, § 567.8(B)(3-4), (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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