

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2018-212A

Kim Glazier, Executive Director Oklahoma Board of Nursing 2915 N. Classen Blvd., Ste. 524 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106 June 19, 2018

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 3.269.18. Between 1991 and 2017, the licensee was charged with several misdemeanors. Also in 2017, the licensee entered into an order to voluntarily surrender the license with the Arkansas State Board of Nursing. In August 2017, the licensee submitted an LPN reinstatement application to the Board. The Board proposes to grant the application, but issue a reprimand and require the licensee to submit to an evaluation and to complete drug screens twice monthly until the evaluation is complete. Also, the licensee must complete remedial education courses and pay a \$500 administrative penalty.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act authorizes the Board to impose discipline when a nurse "[i]s guilty of a felony, or any offense reasonably related to the qualifications, functions or duties of any licensee" or "[h]as had disciplinary actions taken against the individual's . . . license . . . in this or any state, territory or country." 59 O.S.Supp.2017, § 567.8(B)(2), (10). 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

RYAN CHAFFIN

DEPUTY CHIEF - ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL