



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION
2022-27A

Malena Curtsinger, Executive Director
Oklahoma State Board of Cosmetology and Barbering
2401 N.W. 23 St., Suite 84
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73107

August 22, 2022

Dear Executive Director Curtsinger:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding action that the Oklahoma State Board of Cosmetology and Barbering intends to take in case 2022-001.

The Massage Therapy Practice Act, 59 O.S.2021, § 4200.11(B)(2) authorizes the Board to take disciplinary action in cases where the licensee has committed “an act of unprofessional conduct”¹ or violates a rule or law. Board rules state that a licensee shall not “engage in an activity . . . that conflicts with the licensee’s obligation to act in the best interest of the client.” OAC § 175:20-9-1(c).

According to a Board complaint, Licensee is accused of sexually assaulting three female clients during their massages in January, October, and December 2021. Among other things, Licensee is accused of touching the clients’ genitalia and breast areas. In addition, Licensee has a previous conviction for domestic abuse assault and battery.

The Board proposes to revoke Licensee’s license. The Board reasonably believes the proposed action is necessary to presently protect the public and deter future violations.

It is, therefore, the official opinion of the Attorney General that the Oklahoma State Board of Cosmetology and Barbering has adequate support for the conclusion that this action advances the State’s policy to protect public health, safety, and welfare by ensuring massage therapists meet minimum standards of professional conduct.



JOHN M. O’CONNOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA



JULIE PITTMAN
GENERAL COUNSEL

¹ According to Board rule, violation of any provision of the Massage Therapy Practice Act constitutes unprofessional conduct. OAC 175:30-9-1(r).