

## Referral of Disciplinary Cases to Law Enforcement

In the interest of public safety, the Board of Nursing refers discipline cases that involve possible criminal behavior to the appropriate law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction.

The Board uses criteria developed by the Department of Justice to guide these referrals. Based on this criteria, the Board refers cases that involve evidence indicating: abuse or neglect; theft; inappropriate sexual touching, contact, abuse or other sexual activity; falsification of records; illicit drug use or possession; or, any of the 21 crimes outlined in Division 45 (OAR 851-045-0080) of the Nurse Practice Act.

To comply with state and federal confidentiality laws, the Board will initially refer to law enforcement only a brief description of the primary facts of the complaint, the date and location of the incident, and the licensee's name, date of birth, phone number and employer. If the law enforcement agency requests further information, the Board will supply witness statements and contact information, and the complainant statements.

**Adopted: June 18, 2009**

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*The Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) is authorized by Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 678 to exercise general supervision over the practice of nursing in Oregon to include regulation of nursing licensure, education and practice in order to assure that the citizens of Oregon receive safe and effective care.*

*The OSBN further interprets statute and rule and issues opinions in the form of Board Policies, Policy Guidelines and Position Statements. Although they do not have the force and effect of law, these opinions are advisory in nature and issued as guidelines for safe nursing practice.*