

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Brynne Barker

Date: 10/18/20

DAS Assignment #3 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Tricia Lynn Bowers

License number of the defendant: RN 722901

Date action was taken against the license: 7/21/2011

Type of action taken against the license: Warning with Stipulations

Use the space below to describe the events which led to action taken against the license. If multiple charges were in play, be sure and cite them, e.g. drug diversion, HIPAA violation, abandonment, forfeiture on student loans, etc.

Bowers was caught taking medical supplies out of the sharps container at Midland Memorial Hospital. Also, she admitted to using narcotics she got out of the sharps container because she was experiencing insomnia. Bowers admitted to these and said she was under extreme pressure and stress due to her personal life. She did not meet the requirements for chemical dependency and instead had to meet with a professional counselor to discuss coping mechanisms for stress. She was given a warning and had to start working under certain circumstances.

Use the space below to provide a description of measures you think could have prevented any action being taken against the license and/or would have prevented harm to the patient, if harm occurred.

Since Bowers did not meet the requirements for chemical dependency she started seeing a professional counselor. I believe if she would have started seeing a therapist or counselor beforehand she could have controlled her stress better and not feel the need to take from the sharps container. Also, I think she could have gone to her charge nurse and nurse manager and explained the problems she was having and see if they had any suggestions for her. She could have learned better coping mechanisms to help calm herself down and sleep better without the use of narcotics.

Use the space below to describe what action you think a prudent nurse would take as the first to person to discover the event described, in other words, you are the one who discovers the patient has been harmed by the nurse or you have discovered the impairment or criminal activity cited in the disciplinary action.

If I discovered a nurse taking medical supplies from the sharps container, I would immediately notify my charge nurse and nurse manager. Since this could put a patient in danger, someone would need to be notified immediately to protect the patient from harm and also protect the nurse from harming a patient or themselves.

