

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Brianna Johnson **Date:** 05/23/21 **DAS Assignment #** 3 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Sara Cadena **License number of the defendant:** 869899

Date action was taken against the license: 02/09/16

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.

It was reported that Sara Cadena demonstrated unusual behaviors at work such as having slurred speech and spacing out. She demonstrated a slow response time and neglect after failing to respond and intervene when her patient's call light was going off. After taking a drug test, her results came back positive for marijuana. The nurse stated that she was not impaired and had little to no explanation of what was going on that day. She also claimed that she accidentally ate medical marijuana gummy bears at her neighbor's house.

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.

The nurse in this case should not have come to work in that state of mind. If she started feeling impaired at work, she should have let the charge nurse know. The nurse should be more cautious about what she consumes and the people she hangs around outside of work. Although she may not have known about the gummy bears, she still ate them. When you enter into the healthcare field, you are held to a higher standard and when that standard isn't met, there are consequences. It's unfortunate but I'm sure that she knew the risks when she became a nurse.

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.

As a prudent nurse, I would have to report it. Watching an impaired nurse care for patients is like watching a drunk person get into their car and drive. If you witness it, you are responsible for doing the right thing even if the person doing it chooses not to. As a nurse, I am a mandated reporter. Non-maleficence is a constant in clinical practice. Ethically, it is my duty as a prudent nurse to protect any and all vulnerable patients.