

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Carli Bartlett Date: 07/31/2021

DAS Assignment # __1__ (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Susan Dawn Ferguson License number of the defendant: 789084

Date action was taken against the license: June 9th, 2020

Type of action taken against the license: Revoked

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.

This nurse was charged with 3 separate charges. The first charge in this case was while the nurse was employed at Senior Care of Western Hills in Temple, Texas. The nurse had a patient that had shown a decline in their health. She failed to call the physician when she noticed these changes. This is an abandonment for the patient and never gave the physician the change to intervene. The second charge was after the nurse found the patient on the floor, she did not assess vital signs or the patient conditions. She assessed for injuries, provided incontinence care, and gave the patient a pillow and blanket. An hour and 40 minutes later staff found the patient unresponsive and in respiratory distress. The third charge was the nurse ignored the patient's DNR order and performed resuscitation measures.

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.

I believe there are so many steps this nurse could have done to prevent her license being revoked. The first thing when she noticed her patient starting to decline, she should have promptly contacted the physician in charge. Then care could have begun to prevent the patient from declining quicker. The next thing is when she found her patient on the floor, she should have checked all vital signs and maybe she could have noticed the patient was beginning respiratory failure. She could have placed the patient on oxygen to prevent the decline. Also, when she found her patient on the floor she should have assessed and called for assistance to get the patient safely back to bed or a wheelchair. Doing these steps probably would have prevented the patient to need CPR measures, but also respecting the patients wishes on not being resuscitated would have saved this nurse from losing her licenses.

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 noticed or overheard this nurse talking about her patient declining rapidly, I would ask this nurse if she had notified her physician yet. If this nurse has not, I would likely notify my charge on the situation. Second if I was the staff to come in and find this patient on the floor unresponsive, I would assess and notify the total patient care nurse and the charge nurse. Then if I saw this patient had a DNR and the nurse began resuscitation measures I would tell the nurse and move higher up if the nurse did not stop.