

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Jasmine Rodriguez
1 _____ (1-4)

Date: 7/30/21

DAS Assignment #

Name of the defendant: Sandra Denice Betts
456754

License number of the defendant:

Date action was taken against the license: 6/12/2012

Type of action taken against the license: Warning with stipulation

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.

- *As stated by the Texas Board of nursing, Sandra Betts was working as an RN with Harris County Hospital District- Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital, Houston, TX.*
- *On November 25, 2009 Betts was due to give Fentanyl to a patient. Betts went into Pyxis, better known as the medication dispensing system, and withdrew the medication.*
- *No major details were listed, but suddenly the ampule of Fentanyl went "missing," after Betts went to the restroom. Betts stated that she and another nurse searched everywhere but could not find the medication.*
- *Betts on the same day did not report the incident and instead entered the missing medication as "wastage"*
- *Betts entered "wastage" into Pyxis so that the patient would not be charged for a medication they did not receive*
- *Betts basically failed to perform all 7 rights of medication administration which is also a form of patient negligence.*
- *Because Betts was given a warning there were no charges against her. Instead, Betts signed an agreement that gave her several orders.*
- *One of the orders was that she cannot work outside the state of Texas as a nurse without permission from TBON. Another one was that Betts was to take a home study course that consisted of 6 hours. The course consisted of the Nurse Practice Act, standards of practice, documentation of care, principles of nursing ethics, confidentiality, professional boundaries, and several other courses. After completing the course Betts was to get approval from the TBON.*

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.

- *As a nurse, handing out medications is one of the most critically important job. As soon as a nurse obtains a medication from Pyxis, they should always have their eyes on it. Kind of like when working with a sterile field, never turn your back on it. Betts should have never left the medication unattended whether she trusted who was in the room or not.*
- *Another way that Betts could have avoided getting in trouble with the TBON is that she should have reported the incident correctly. Instead of reporting the incident as how it happened, she lied to apparently save the patient and the hospital the cost of the medication.*
- *Betts thought that she was doing the right thing, but she was not. No matter how much trouble you think you are going to get in, you should never lie to make it slightly better.*

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 stated in the article, Betts said that another nurse was helping her look for the ampule of fentanyl, but they could not find it. Being in that position I would have confronted Betts; I would have made sure that she reported it immediately and that it was reported in the correct manner. If you are covering for another nurse or not reporting any mistakes, you are just as responsible as the person who actually made the mistake. It is not right to lie especially when dealing with medication, it can cause dangerous situations.*