

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Gladys Dominguez

Date: 10/2/2021

DAS Assignment # 1 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Zephan Michael Rochelle License number of the defendant: RN 912580

Date action was taken against the license: 02/13/18

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.

Around the date of July 11, 2017, former registered nurse Zephan Michael Rochelle was pursuing employment with a travel nurse agency. As with any job, those who apply may need to take a drug test. Rochelle's test came back positive for unlawful use of Methamphetamine. According to Texas Health & Safety Code Chapter 481, the possession of Methamphetamine is prohibited. Methamphetamine use could negatively impact the nurse's ability to acknowledge, document and care for any subtle signs, symptoms, changes in their patient's condition; furthermore, it could lead to the inability to make accurate, rational, and proper assessments, decisions in regards to patient care, and judgements of situations that may need to be made during patient care. This puts the patient in a position of potential danger.

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. Consider which universal competencies were violated.

The measures that could have been taken are simple; do not use Methamphetamine or any other controlled substance if applying for a job. I believe the travel agency acted appropriately and kept patients safe when it came to requiring a drug test. There is no documentation of patients being harmed in this instance. While no universal competencies were violated because of a failed drug test PRIOR to being employed, I want to highlight on the extensive list of universal competencies that would have been violated had the respondent used Methamphetamine AFTER receiving employment. As I have previously stated, this would have impaired the nurse's ability to provide the proper care the patient needed meaning any universal competency could have been forgotten by this nurse. Not only could universal competencies have been violated but procedures such as the ones discussed in class (blood draws, CVAD dressing) and other more complex procedures could have been done incorrectly resulting in patient harm.

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.

While in this particular situation, there was no documentation of harmed patients; however, I do believe it to be extremely important to document and report any harm that may have been caused to a patient by a practicing nurse. I believe it is important to document so if there is any legal action, the patient has the facts of the occurrence and can receive the justice they deserve. Reporting is also incredibly important to any harm that was done can be fixed.