

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Marquyne Leoner C. Ola Date: October 3, 2021

DAS Assignment # 1

Name of the defendant: Audra Claire Ables

License number of the defendant: 664926

Date action was taken against the license: 5/14/2013

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.

On August 7, 1992, Audra Claire Ables, who was Audra Claire Johansen at that time pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor for Violation of the Arkansas Hot Check Law, in the Craighead County Municipal Court, Jonesboro, Arkansas and was ordered to do restitution and pay fine. Johansen had satisfied the court ordered conditions. On February 3, 1993, Johansen had once again pleaded guilty of the same misdemeanor and had satisfied the court ordered conditions. Audra Claire Johansen had received her Associate Degree in Nursing from Arkansas State University, Arkansas in May of 1995. She had completed her application for licensure by endorsement and answered "Yes" to question number ten (ten), which read as follows: "Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than minor traffic violations?"

On or about August 13, 1999, Audra Claire Johansen submitted a Temporary License/Endorsement Application as a professional nurse in the State of Texas. She was granted to practice as a nurse in the State of Texas under the conditions that, within 1 year of licensure, she should successfully complete a course in nursing jurisprudence. She should obtain Board approval prior to course enrollment which included Nurse Practice Act, standards of practice and documentation of care. On September 24, 1999, Audra Claire Johansen had submitted a certificate with her signature affixed that she had accepted the conditions and that she had understood and agreed that any violations of the conditions given to her would subject her to investigation and disciplinary sanctions, including the revocation of her license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas. Johansen was licensed to practice Professional nursing in the State of Texas on November 10, 1999.

On January 9, 2012, while applying for a job at Nightingale Nurses, LLC, Boca Raton, Florida, Audra Claire Ables tested positive for Benzodiazepines that she provided a pre-employment drug screen. The use of Benzodiazepines of a Registered Nurse while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgment and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger. The Board found that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result to impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical

dependency. It was therefore ordered, subject to ratification by the Board of Nursing, that Audra Claire Ables should receive the sanction of WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS.

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.

Since there was no harm that occurred to a patient and the case was purely in relation to the behavior of the licensed nurse as a professional, the measures that could have prevented any action taken against the license of the nurse is merely personal or subjective. As a professional licensed nurse, Audra Claire Ables knew better than anybody else that taking controlled drugs, or any chemical dependency of a nurse pose serious risks of potential harm to the patient under care. She should have considered asking for professional help regarding being dependent to the chemical or if she was taking the controlled drug, she should have disclosed it to anybody in her workplace, like a manager or a supervisor so that she could have received the proper treatment for her problem.

I think the violated Universal Competencies in this case are Safety of the patient, Human caring for the patient and the Professional Role of the nurse in administering patient care.

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.

A prudent nurse would inform his/her superiors regarding witnessing a fellow care provider under chemical dependency or in use of controlled substances to prevent harm to the patient. We all know that chemical dependency or taking controlled substances while providing patient care presents great risks in taking of the patient and may include fatality if not prevented. A prudent nurse should be aware and responsible for what is happening around her while on duty and that includes being aware of his/her fellow nurses as well to ensure that as a team, they are providing the best quality of patient care.