

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Tyquinisha Mitchell Date: 08-29-22 DAS Assignment # 1 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Melissa Allison License number of the defendant: 630471

Date action was taken against the license: July 21st, 2014

Type of action taken against the license: Melissa Allison's license was revoked due to multiple offenses towards the matter of driving under the influence of alcohol.

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.

Mrs. Allison was arrested on September 30th, 2010, for driving while intoxicated. She plead guilty, was sentenced to two years of community supervision, and decided to go to inpatient treatment for her first offense. In another occurrence on March 21st, 2011, Melissa Allison was caught "driving while intoxicated" and plead guilty to a misdemeanor with a sentence of 2 years of probation along with a fine and payment of court fees. Then on April 20th, 2011, Mrs. Allison had a positive drug screen test for alcohol. December 6th Mrs. Allison had gained another offense to a DWI where she then enrolled into a program for the treatment of substance abuse. In this matter Melissa Allison had many opportunities to seek help in her chemical dependence for alcohol and had many occasions that caused her consequences for driving under the influence and so she therefore knew that what she was doing was wrong. As a nurse you are held to a higher standard of accountability because everything you do can in some way impact or affect the potential care and overall health/safety of each patient taken care of underneath the TPCN. This nurse did not consider that she was putting patients in harms way by not controlling her alcohol dependencies and therefore obtaining consequences for her actions. If this nurse is not being reliable for the safety of other drivers, how can she be accountable for the safety of patients that are underneath her care when she could be intoxicated at those times as well? She has had too many offenses and therefore has a high risk for patient harm due to intoxication. Melissa Allison signed an agreement on June 27th, 2012, that granted her the opportunity to be into a Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. She has revoked this right by not following the rules to this agreement and therefore her license should still be revoked because she does not care to fix her alcohol dependencies and therefor does not beat that requirement for being a safe and prudent nurse.

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.

Melissa Allison would not have lost her license if she would have sought out help for her alcohol dependencies when she obtained her first consequence for her actions of driving while intoxicated. This nurse knows what is required to be a safe and prudent nurse and driving under the influence under multiple occasions is not the case. In all honesty, if she is having multiple occasions of this matter then it's not a guarantee that she is not intoxicated while assuming the role of the TPCN at the bedside. Therefore, Melissa Allison has violated the universal competencies of not only decreasing the patient's safety because she has potentiated a risk for harm but is also not underneath her realm of a professional role.

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 assumed that I found a nurse who has caused harm or impairment to a patient based on the effects of having an alcohol dependency, I would immediately notify my charge nurse so that she can notify the nurse manager and get a safe and prudent nurse for the well-being and safety of the patients. In a lot of cases however, you can tell when someone is intoxicated and so I would hope that I could notify The CN before a patient's safety is compromised.

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