

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: **Meghan Schmitt** Date: **10/28/2022** DAS Assignment # **1** (1-4)

Name of the defendant: **Antonietta Y. Burdett-Sutton** License number of the defendant: **620644**

Date action was taken against the license: **March 20th, 2012**

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.

There were multiple charges that were in play regarding the defendant, including: convicted of driving while intoxicated, engaging in the use of cocaine and being arrested for possession of a controlled substance (Morphine, Xanax, Temazepam and Methaqualone). Earlier charges showed that the defendant also received remedial education due to withdrawing and/or administering Dilaudid, Morphine and Demerol in excess frequency and/or dosage of the physician's orders, including failure to properly wasting the medications.

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.

While the defendant should have not engaged in these behaviors in their personal life, they should have definitely not engaged in these behaviors while working and caring for patients, this would have prevented the severity of the action being taken against the license. Working while intoxicated or under the influence can lead to impaired decision making and accurate responses for their patient's health and well-being. Being under any influence violates the universal competency of safety and security. While under the influence, the defendant could have physically harmed the patient, by not responding properly to signs and symptoms or any values that showed the patient needs specific attention. The defendant also violates the critical thinking competency. While under any influence, the defendant could have impaired judgement regarding: legal, ethical, professional and institutional standards, failure to use evidence-based practice and proper evaluation of healthcare providers orders, treatment plans and/or nursing care plans. We could also go as far as saying that the communication competency was jeopardized depending on the defendant's ability (under the influence) to focus on their patient. Could the defendant properly communicate with their patients regarding procedures, labs and needs? The defendant under these charges, could have placed a patient in potential danger and not cared for them properly.

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 a prudent nurse, discovering the impairment of my fellow colleague, I would like to communicate with them and see if I can confirm that they are under any influence (alcohol/controlled substance). After making that confirmation, I would be sure to document this finding and alert the charge nurse immediately so that action could take place and reduce the risk of any patient's safety. After this situation were to occur, I would follow-up with hospital administrators about this incident and report my findings properly.