

Covenant School of Nursing  
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment  
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Mayci Wood

Date: 03/21/2023

DAS Assignment # 1

Name of the defendant: Sally Lyn Ballentine

License number of the defendant: 603237

Date action was taken against the license: 05 / 10 / 2011

Type of action taken against the license: License revoked

*Use the space below to describe the events which led to the action(s) 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.*

The respondent had repetitively arrived to work under the influence of alcohol and once with unprescribed benzodiazepines. While doing a drug screening, the respondent's test results came back positive for Benzodiazepines in which she admitted the use of unprescribed Valium. While under the influence of alcohol, the nurse would be seen stumbling through the halls and acting confused.

*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.*

*This situation could have been prevented if she wouldn't drink before or the night before work. The positive drug test that showed the unprescribed benzodiazepine in her system could have possibly been prevented if she had a witness while discarding any excess Valium waste.*

*Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.*

*I would say that showing up to work under the influence of drugs or alcohol would cause a violation in all universal competencies. However, if I were to only choose one, I would say the respondent violated the professional role. The respondent would not be able to maintain professionalism if she is seen stumbling through the halls and acting confused with an unstable mindset. With her not being in an acceptable mindset, she could cause harm in Physical and emotional safety, standard precautions, communication, critical thinking, documentation, and human caring. Overall, many errors could be made in each universal competency if allowed to work.*

*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.*

I, as the prudent nurse, would send the respondent home. With this situation it is simply not safe for a nurse with impaired senses to take care of a patient. I would explain how her impaired state poses not only a danger to her patients but a threat to her license. Sending the respondent home ensures patient care and safety.