

Covenant School of Nursing
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Dawson Delaney

Date:3/24/23

DAS Assignment # 1

Name of the defendant: Joseph Russel Galloway

License number of the defendant: 821702

Date action was taken against the license: 12/18/2014

Type of action taken against the license: Warning with stipulations

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.

Mr. Galloway had been previously diagnosed with hypothyroidism. Unfortunately, he had recently switched primary care providers and his prescription for the hypothyroidism symptoms was unable to be filled at the time. Feeling symptomatic, the nurse chose to go into work. As the night progressed his symptoms began to get worse. During the night he noticed that one of his patients also suffers from hypothyroidism. He decided he would see if this patients medication could alleviate his symptoms. He then proceeded to remove a dose of the medication from the dispensing system and ingest it. This is a violation of chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

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.

In this case it is very simple to me. Even if at the beginning of his shift the symptoms were not that bad, he should have notified his supervisor that he wasn't feeling well. As the night progressed and the symptoms got worse, he should have been in communication with the supervisor. When the symptoms continued to get worse he should have been removed from the floor and sent home. By trying to continue to work while being symptomatic, he put his patients at an increased risk for injury. I feel that open communication with his supervisor could have prevented this scenario.

Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.

The nurse did not utilize critical thinking in this scenario. His decision making was compromised and he was in no shape to care for patients. Because he was experiencing symptoms of his hypothyroidism, he felt that he should just take a med from the hospital, which he has admitted was the wrong decision to make. He also violated his professional role by coming to work while symptomatic. Like I said above, communication was the

biggest issue with this scenario. The only thing he did correct in this situation was tell his supervisor what had happened and why.

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 would first go to the nurse and talk with him about what happened. I would highly encourage the nurse to do just what he did, go to the supervisor and explain the situation. If the nurse refused to come clean, I would be forced to go to the superior myself and explain the situation to the best of my ability. At the end of the day the nurse stole from both the hospital and the patient, it needed to be made known to the supervisor what had taken place.