

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Zarin Gonzales

Date: March 27, 2023

DAS Assignment #. 2 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Vanessa Ann Cordoway

License number of the defendant: 833495

Date action was taken against the license: June 16th, 2015

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.

The defendant violated patient confidentiality, and overheard a patient's name by other nurses and thought she may have known the patient. After realizing that she had mutual friends of the patient, she messaged said patient over Facebook and explained that she knew as to why she was in the hospital. (I assume it was never clear as to why she was in the hospital). The reason as to why this was wrong because this nurse never had this patient... as a patient of her own. This patient's rights were violated because their information was out without given consent.

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.

The way that this could have prevented is by not reaching out to the patient, because of the resources that are accessible to the nurse. We do find trouble in separating our personal lives with our work life... BUT as professionals we are supposed to be able to separate them. The things we do to prevent can be things such as not further investigating into someone's personal medical record and reaching out. We can make sure that IF (we should not at all) we talk about a patient... it is in privacy. Further educating employees that patient confidentiality is something that we are required to keep as nurses, and that it is a HIPAA violation would help prevent it as well. All actions are preventable, it is up to the nurse to know whether or not that they are following the guidelines that are set before them.

Identify which universal competencies were violated and explain how.

Human caring and patient rights were violated in this scenario. These patients rely on us to keep confidentiality of their medical things/issues. It is a LAW that we are keeping their information private. We should not be contacting patients outside of the hospital to report that you know what is wrong with them. The only time to

talk to patients is in the work environment. If patients think that we are looking at their records for fun, then we will never have a solid relationship between healthcare providers and patients.

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 student nurse would instantly report what the wrongdoing of the other nurse was. There is no reason that patients should be contacted... especially by someone on Facebook that they do not even know. The patients always come first, and if I know that it was the nurses plan to harm the patient... I would instantly report it. We nurses (and student nurses) take an oath and swear by our patients first.