

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Celeste Gomez

Date: 01/25/2023

DAS Assignment # 2

Name of the defendant: Julie Ann Valchar

License number of the defendant: 571218

Date action was taken against the license: 09/08/2020

Type of action taken against the 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 charges against the defendant are as follows:

-Lacked mental clarity and fitness to practice nursing due to exhibiting signs of impaired behavior. (<file:///C:/Users/celeg/Downloads/571218.pdf>)

-Engaged in an untimely use of alcohol, resulting in defendant having a BAC of .125% and .124%, respectively, at the time they went into work. The (<file:///C:/Users/celeg/Downloads/571218.pdf>)

- *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.*

I think a good form of measure to prevent the events that happened with this nurse's situation, should have been to not have partaken in the consumption of that much alcohol or to better yet not go in to work, knowing that it would impede the safety of the patients and the safety of the nurses license. I think that a prudent nurse, in reality, would have either called in to work or would have had to let the DON and charge nurse know that they had partaken in alcohol consumption prior, and it would have been a hindrance to their work performance and to the safety of all patients, as well as the nurse and their license.

- *Identify ALL universal competencies were violated and explain how.*

Safety and Security (Physical)

The defendant showed up to work under the influence of alcohol and lacked fitness to perform this competency, and was putting patients lives and safety at risk.

Critical Thinking

The defendant did not show competency in her critical thinking, as her decision making as a nurse to go into work that day, knowing that she was under the influence of alcohol and still chose to also drive to work, not only put patients lives at risk but also any one else who was driving that day, as well as the defendant herself.

Professional Role

The defendant was seen “swerving back and forth while driving to work” and appeared to have an “unsteady gait, slurred speech, crying, emotional instability, and forgetfulness”.

(<file:///C:/Users/celeg/Downloads/571218.pdf>) The defendant stated to her Director that she “needed help to stop drinking”. (<file:///C:/Users/celeg/Downloads/571218.pdf>)

- *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, the first plan of action would be once I seen the defendant would be to immediately contact the charge nurse or the director of nurses and explain the situation of the defendants appearance and their demeanor was showing signs of intoxication from alcohol. I would have also had the nurse sit in a separate area, away from the patients to ensure that there would be no sort of interaction between nurse and patient, for their safety. I would have also suggested to the defendant that there are resources for nurses to help them if they are struggling with any sort of substance abuse and need support, and to help them retain their licensure.