

Covenant School of Nursing
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Kimbra Rodriguez
Assignment: # 2

Date:1/29/2025

DAS

Name of the defendant: Leticia Maria Martinez, RN

License number of the defendant: 748056

Date action was taken against the license: 4/23/2020

Type of action taken against the license: Probated Suspension

Leticia Martinez faced disciplinary action due to her involvement in dishonorable behavior while working in the hospital. On July 9, 2018, Martinez bathed her patient in excessively hot water, which led to redness, blistering, and peeling on the patient's inner thighs, perineum, buttocks, and right hand. Consequently, the patient was transported to Edinburg Regional Medical Center and suffered second-degree burns. On July 9, 2018, Martinez failed to immediately notify the physician that her patient sustained burns while bathing. For these reasons, the Board of Nursing decided to suspend Martinez's license. However, the suspension remains stayed, and Martinez is instead placed on probation for two years. As a result of this order, Martinez license will be designated "single state" and she may not work outside the State of Texas. During this time, Martinez must complete the Board's remedial education courses as well as adhere to the Board of Nursing's regulations for employment. If any new complaints or accusations arise against Martinez during the probation, the probation period will be extended automatically until these issues are resolved by the Board.

I believe that multiple measures could have been taken to prevent the disciplinary action that Leticia Martinez now has to face. To start, Martinez should have been aware of the high temperature of the water and set a maximum temperature limit to prevent harm. Patient safety and proper bathing protocol would have also provided Martinez with the necessary skills to ensure no infliction of harm to her patient. Immediately telling the provider, although it may result in consequence, would help reduce harm to the patient

and provide the necessary care promptly. Leaving the patient in a critical condition due to her fear of being punished resulted in prolonged suffering for the patient.

Leticia Martinez violated several universal competencies during her shift. Safety and Security, Human Caring, and Professional Role were violated when Martinez failed to address the patient's pain as well as her failure to promote trust and respect by exposing her patient to harm in that the patient sustained burns. Communication, Critical Thinking, and Documentation were broken when Martinez failed to notify the physician of crucial information needed to prevent further complications, demonstrating a lack of decision making. Failure to document her error properly could have endangered the patient, as future caregivers would lack essential information for making decisions about the patient's care

If I were the first person to discover Leticia Martinez's actions, I would immediately confirm the patient's safety. I would then notify the charge nurse and establish that the patient's provider is aware of the situation. To further maintain patient safety, I would ensure that Leticia would no longer be allowed to care for her other patients and arrange alternative care to prevent further harm. I would then document everything to my knowledge that had happened to protect myself. Lastly, I would speak to Leticia, and let her know that even though she made a mistake, accountability and recovery is possible.