

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Brandon Scott

Date: 04/10/2025

DAS Assignment #2

Name of the defendant: Melissa Ann Wigington

License number of the defendant:

Date(s) and BON decision(s) taken against the license: 08/10/2023.

Type of action(s) imposed to retain or regain licensure, if applicable (ex.: warning with stipulations, etc.)

Warning with stipulations, 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 each of them, e.g. drug diversion, HIPAA violation, abandonment, etc.*

The events that led to the revocation of Melissa Ann Wigington's RN and LVN license include Failing to document 19 patient visits in patient's medical records. RN also provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that she answered "no" to a question, in which she failed to disclose that on or about May 17, 2007, Respondent was arrested by Collin County Sheriff's Office, McKinney, Texas, and was subsequently charged under Cause No 002-81716-07, with DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, a Class B misdemeanor offense. More events that led to the revocation of the licenses of Melissa Ann Wigington were: Respondent submitted a Texas Online Renewal Document Registered Nurse to the Texas Board of Nursing in which she provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that she answered "No" to the question of having a past conviction of a misdemeanor, felony, etc., Melissa Ann Wigington failed to disclose that on or about July 11, 2007 she entered a plea of Guilty to DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, a class B misdemeanor offense committed on May 17, 2007.

- *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.*

Measures that could be taken to prevent action from being taken, and harm prevention to patients would be:

To prevent risk of harm potentially happening to the patient regarding failing to document 19 patient visits, the RNs working on the same floor or department including the charge nurse could keep a closer eye on Melissa Ann Wigington, and take notice of her extra downtime, and report it to the Nurse manager or proper resources. The same personnel such as RN peers, and CN could also educate on the importance of documentation, and the danger that could befall upon patients with incomplete medical records which could potentially lead to death and/or severe harm. To prevent Melissa Ann Wigington from providing deceptive information concerning her DWI conviction, the county that charged her could have reinforced how the charge

would not be something you can lie about when trying to renew your license. To support the defendant RN's thought process, they may have believed that their charge would not be easily uncovered if she did not mention it and would not have to worry about this charge of DWI blemishing their record and ability to apply for jobs or various positions. To prevent the RN from getting a DWI, she could have remained home and ordered whatever she needed with a delivery service instead of operating a vehicle under the influence. Remedial education regarding the professional role and obligations and duties as an RN would benefit preventing the RN from providing deceptive information during license renewal and in their failure to document patient visits.

- *Identify ALL universal competencies (4-5) that were violated and explain how in detail to reflect your understanding and importance of the universal competencies.*

Safety and Security (Physical) were violated, as Melissa Ann Wiginton did not consider the possible repercussions of failing to document 19 patient visits. The patients that had information lacking from their chart could have easily been overdosed or underdosed during or after their care in the facility the RN worked at. The absence of proper documentation for patient visits puts the patient at risk of harm and medication errors. The Physical Safety and Security of patients is at risk whenever any interventions, assessment findings, and pertinent information is not documented into their eMAR because it theoretically did not happen if it is not in the patient's chart.

Professional Role was violated, as Melissa Ann Wiginton attempted to deceive others on her guilty plea to Driving While Intoxicated, and did not fulfill her Professional Role by not providing accurate documentation and doing her duty to include all care, interventions, medications, and critical information into the patient's medical chart. The RN has a duty to provide patients with best care which includes documenting all the pertinent information of the patient in their eMAR.

Documentation was violated, as Melissa Ann Wiginton failed to document 19 patient visits. Without documenting these patient visits, the plan for care could be severely impacted by the lack of information pertaining to assessment findings, interventions, medications given, and all sorts of information that tracks and provides a history of what the patient has experienced during their stay in the hospital. Documentation is a critical part of nursing because it keeps a record of the patient's status at different periods of time in their stay at the hospital. For example, if a patient received a medication, and had an anaphylactic reaction, that reaction would be documented, and attached to their medical record, to prevent the same adverse effect from happening in the future. Without the documentation of that event, the same event could happen once again but could result in death.

- *Use the space below to describe what actions 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.*

Actions a prudent nurse would take as the first person to discover the RN not documenting 19 patient visits and providing deceptive information and not disclosing a DWI would be to first notify the proper resources that can deal with the RN accordingly and inform the appropriate resources and patients that did not receive documentation. As a prudent nurse, if the RN remained working alongside myself after the discovery of their malpractice, in a caring and patient demeanor, I would emphasize the importance of Professional Role, Documentation, and Safety & Security (Physical), along with the severe harm that us as Nurses could subject patients to if we disregard those important universal competencies.