

JCCC Johnson County Community College

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Notified
by email
@ 1700

Notified by
@ 1703 phone

Received
@ 1730
11/16/10

November 16, 2010

Doyle Byrnes

6702 W 156th Terr

Overland Park, KS 66223

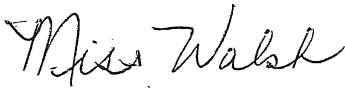
Dear Doyle Byrnes:

Last Thursday, November 11, 2010, I informed you of your dismissal from the Johnson County Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program related to the event that occurred the previous day in clinical at an affiliate agency. The dismissal from the Associate Degree Nursing Program was based on the Code of Conduct that appears in the JCCC Nursing Student

Handbook on page 5 and that you accepted upon entrance into the program. ~~Your demeanor and lack of professional behavior~~ surrounding this event was ~~considered a disruption to the learning environment~~ and did ~~not exemplify the professional behavior~~ that we expect in the nursing program.

Rather than receiving a failing grade, you have been administratively withdrawn from the NURS 228 Maternal Child Nursing course and will receive a grade of "W". Dr. Dennis Day, Vice President of Student Affairs, has reviewed the steps of the appeal process with you. It can also be found on the JCCC website.

Cordially,



Jeanne Walsh

Director, Nursing



17 November 2010

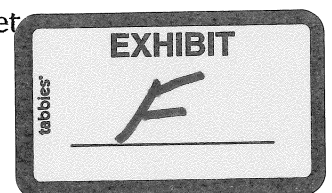
Ms. Jeanne Walsh,

I am writing this appeal in response to my dismissal from the Johnson County Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program in regard to a photograph I had posted on a social networking website.

I would first like to apologize for my mistake. I made a momentary lapse in judgment by putting the photograph on a social networking website, let alone allowing myself to be photographed in the first place. In my excitement to be able to share with my loved ones the phenomenal learning experience in which I had been blessed enough to take part, I did not consider that others might view this photograph as unprofessional, offensive to the school I was representing, and more importantly the sanctity of human life. For my actions I am truly sorry.

In addition, it is with my deepest regret that my clinical instructor, Amber Delphia, is affiliated with these actions. I hope that any reprimanding actions against her are spared, as she is an asset to your program as a an instructor who exudes welcome to all her students and who is excited to both teach her students as well as experience their growth in learning. Amber always critiques in an uplifting and encouraging fashion, and always has pushed her students, including myself, to continue to foster our knowledge in critical thinking. Amber is one of the best clinical instructors I, or any one of my fellow classmates, have ever had the pleasure of being assigned.

Amber obtained for us a placenta from our clinical site so we could have a hands-on learning experience that mirrored content in lecture in regard to the anatomy and physiology of this very unique organ. Together with my peers, we were able to identify the two arteries of the umbilical cord as well as the singular vein. We were allowed to examine the umbilical cord and label both the fetal and mother's side of the placenta, under the observation of our instructor, Amber. To be able to relate the knowledge we were so enthused by in lecture into our own real life experiences was a pivotal moment in our learning. We were taken aback by the miraculous service this organ had provided, and admired in awe its perfect, yet



simple design to function as the life support for a presently recent addition to the human existence. Our joy in the marvels of pregnancy and the creation of life was unparalleled by any other experience we have had in nursing school thus far. For me it was a moment that confirmed all of my wants to become a nurse and continue to uphold the beauty and mystery of life.

We asked Amber if it would be appropriate to take a photograph. Amber instructed us that as long as we removed any patient or hospital identifiers from the frame, that it would be permissible. We ensured under Amber's supervision that we would not be violating anyone's privacy. Amber asked with whom we were planning on showing the photographs, and we stated that we were intending to put them up on the social networking site as well as submit them for the senior slideshow at graduation. It was evident to me by Amber's response that this was acceptable behavior.

Wednesday evening at 1940 Amber contacted me via my mobile phone to ask that any pictures be removed from the website. I stated to her that I would remove the photograph immediately from my page and did so accordingly. It is to the best of my knowledge that the photograph remained on my page no more than two and a half hours.

I now recognize that I should have never posted the photograph, and because the access to uploading information is so instantaneous on this website, I have eliminated my account. I do not blame this website for my actions, but I recognize that to improve upon my skills in judgment, and to improve my ability to think critically, I cannot afford a tool that tempts me to remove any deeper thought behind my actions. In recognizing that I need improvement and growth in these areas, I have eliminated anything that hinders me in allowing me to think clearly.

It was not my intent to be inflammatory toward the holiness of life, or to misrepresent my school in an unprofessional manner. Nor do I believe it was the intent of Amber or my fellow classmates Chrystie, Dani, and Jamie. As a student I believed myself to be in a safe learning environment under the instruction of a professional nurse. As I have not yet been fully trained or qualified, I rely on my

instructors to provide appropriate judgment and guidance in situations that I am unfamiliar with the proper course of action.

I would like to assume full responsibility for my mistakes. With this appeal I am requesting that an alternate punishment be levied against my actions that allows me to continue my education in this Associate Degree Nursing Program at Johnson County Community College. I do not intend to take my punishment lightly. I do not find what I have done to be humorous in any way, and am willing to be the example to my fellow classmates in the nursing program with my first-hand experience. It is my dream to become a nurse, and I have devoted the last four years of my life to pursuing this dream. Along the way I have sacrificed working, my friends, my family, and following my fiancé to Virginia all for an education at Johnson County Community College.

I am sorry. I hope you find it in your heart to forgive me.

Please feel free to contact me. I welcome the opportunity to discuss this appeal further with you.

Doyle Byrnes

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