



## HSE 340 Milestone Two Guidelines and Rubric

In Milestone One, you created an introduction to the case study. Your introduction required you to examine the basis for the laws and ethics related to releasing confidential information. You reviewed strategies to assist with prevention of ethics and law violations related to protected health information (PHI).

For this milestone, you will utilize knowledge learned from your work on the introduction, and you will place yourself in the role of a human services professional (HSP) who is facilitating discharge from a psychiatric hospital. Unique to this case is that the patient is a parolee who was admitted for care in the facility for a crisis involving an accidental overdose of street drugs. The federal regulation, 42 CFR Part 2, will greatly assist you in completing this milestone, as will the module readings and resources provided up to this point.

Consider the following scenario.

Stephanie is a human-services policy analyst who works with the state-run psychiatric hospital system. Her job is to facilitate discharges of patients to the community by coordinating with local mental-health centers and providers of care to make sure that the patient has adequate and immediate post-discharge care. Stephanie received a call from a parole officer of a 25-year-old undocumented-immigrant patient named Kevin, who was in the hospital. The parole officer indicated that Kevin violated parole by abusing illegal substances prior to the admission to the state hospital. The parole officer asked questions about Kevin's diagnoses, where he was being discharged to, and the staff involved in his care while hospitalized. You have been asked to determine if Stephanie can legally and ethically answer these questions and provide confidential health information about Kevin to the parole officer.

For this milestone, you will submit a draft of the review of the case, including all critical elements listed below. Using the information reviewed for Milestone One, discuss information that can and cannot be released to a parole officer, particularly information about an individual who has a substance abuse diagnosis along with mental illness, and is being discharged from a psychiatric facility to the community. A state statute from your state of residence can provide information related to parole of individuals previously incarcerated. Provide an example of how an inappropriate release of confidential information can be remediated in order to prevent a lawsuit against the human services professional (HSP) and/or the agency. Some State Departments of Health and Human Services have information related to this issue. Make sure to review both federal and state statutes to gain a more comprehensive viewpoint.

Specifically, the following **critical elements** must be addressed:

### II. Review of the Case

Based on your analysis of the codes of ethics and legal considerations in human services, create strategies to address questions about the case.

- A. What information can be released to the **parole officer**? What information should not be released to the parole officer? Justify your responses.
- B. If information is released that should not be, what are the **legal ramifications** for the human services professional and her organization? Justify your claims with relevant, scholarly research.
- C. What are the **ethical issues** that would arise for the policy analyst and her organization due to releasing information that should not be released? Recommend appropriate legal strategies to mitigate identified ethical issues.

D. Include **other issues** that should be considered that are specific to this case scenario and related to compliance with NOHS ethical standards and laws that govern in the human services field. Justify your claims using concrete, relevant examples.

## What to Submit

Milestone Two must be submitted as a 3- to 4-page Microsoft Word document with double spacing, 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins, and at least five sources cited in APA format.

### Milestone Two Rubric

Criteria	Proficient (100%)	Needs Improvement (75%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
<b>Review of the Case: Parole Officer</b>	Accurately identifies what confidential information can and cannot be released to a parole officer and justifies responses	Identifies what confidential information can be released to a parole officer, but does not justify responses or identification is inaccurate	Does not identify what confidential information can be released to a parole officer	22
<b>Review of the Case: Legal Ramifications</b>	Comprehensively evaluates the legal ramifications if information is released that should not be, justifying claims with relevant, scholarly research	Evaluates the legal ramifications for the human services professional and her organization if information is released that should not be, but does not justify claims with relevant, scholarly research or evaluation is not comprehensive	Does not evaluate the legal ramifications for the human services professional	22
<b>Review of the Case: Ethical Issues</b>	Comprehensively identifies the ethical issues if information is released that should not be, and recommends appropriate legal strategies to mitigate identified ethical issues	Identifies the ethical issues if information is released that should not be, and recommends legal strategies, but recommendations are not appropriate or lack detail	Does not identify the ethical issues if information is released that should not be	22
<b>Review of the Case: Other Issues</b>	Identifies other issues that should be considered that are specific to this case scenario and related to compliance with ethics and laws in the human services field; justifies claims using concrete, relevant examples	Identifies other issues that should be considered that are specific to this case scenario and related to compliance with ethics and laws in the human services field, but does not justify claims or does not use concrete, relevant examples	Does not identify other issues that should be considered	22

Criteria	Proficient (100%)	Needs Improvement (75%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
<b>Articulation of Response</b>	Submission has no major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization	Submission has major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that negatively impact readability and articulation of main ideas	Submission has critical errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that prevent understanding of ideas	12
<b>Total:</b>				100%