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A Union of Nurses & Health Professionals

Affiliated with AFL-CIO

November 12, 2026

Ohio Board of Nursing

RE: Formal Complaint Against Corrin Steinhauer, DNP, RN — Failure to Address Reported Unsafe Staffing Conditions and Foreseeable Risks to Patient Safety

Dear Members of the Ohio Board of Nursing:

I am submitting this formal complaint requesting an investigation into the professional conduct of Corrin Steinhauer, DNP, RN, Chief Nursing Officer of The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – James Cancer Hospital.

As Chief Nursing Officer, Dr. Steinhauer holds significant responsibility for nursing practice standards, nursing leadership, and advocating for conditions that support safe patient care.

We are deeply concerned that persistent staffing deficiencies, despite repeated warnings from frontline nurses, are creating unnecessary and foreseeable risks to patients.

Recent reports from nursing staff at The James describe:

- Multiple units operating with nurse-to-patient assignments that raise significant concerns regarding patient acuity and available resources.
- Charge nurses being assigned direct patient care responsibilities, limiting their ability to provide unit oversight and respond to emerging clinical needs.
- Inadequate resource nursing support across understaffed units.
- Reports of patient falls and emergency response activations during periods of staffing shortages, requiring examination of whether inadequate staffing contributed to these events.
- Continued staffing concerns despite repeated requests for additional support and intervention.

These conditions create a substantial risk of delayed assessment, compromised surveillance, delayed interventions, and reduced capacity to respond to changes in patient condition.

Our concern is not predicated on proving that a particular patient has already suffered harm. Our concern is that nursing leadership has been repeatedly warned about conditions that may foreseeably jeopardize patient safety.

Dr. Steinhauer has been directly notified of serious staffing concerns. We request that the Board examine whether the actions taken in response were timely, adequate, and consistent with the professional responsibilities of a licensed nurse serving in an executive leadership role.

We recognize that staffing involves operational and organizational considerations. However, those considerations cannot excuse a failure to appropriately recognize, escalate, advocate for, and respond to potentially unsafe nursing care conditions.

We request an investigation into Dr. Steinhauer's knowledge of the reported risks, her responsibility and authority to address them, the measures implemented in response, and whether any actions or omissions violated applicable professional nursing standards.

The professional obligation to advocate for patient safety does not end when a nurse accepts an executive position.

A bedside nurse is expected to recognize unsafe conditions, escalate concerns, and take appropriate action within their professional responsibilities. Nursing executives should be subject to meaningful scrutiny of how they fulfill those same fundamental obligations.

Patients should not have to experience preventable harm before nursing leadership's response to known risks is evaluated.

We respectfully request that the Board investigate these concerns and determine whether Dr. Steinhauer has met the professional responsibilities associated with her nursing license.

Respectfully,



Rick Lucas, BSN, RN, CCRN
President, Ohio Nurses Association