The proposed scenario for this assignment is quite challenging for me, I don’t feel like I have had enough industry experiences or have dealt with situations where I need to make a critical decision before to relate to the scenario. If I were a Software Developer and there was ever a situation in which I would refuse to do something my employer asked that could cost me my job, it’d need to meet some personal criteria I have. These criteria include my understanding of the given task, the extends of its effects, and whether the parties involved understand its usage.

Firstly, do I have full understanding of the task asked by my employer. As software developers, we always require proper requirements, descriptions, and/or documentations of the task or project given to us. A task given with lack of explanation, too many hidden parts, and too much grey areas will definitely concern me. Furthermore, if I ask my employer to specify but I can see or sense that they’re dodging or ignoring the question, it’d definitely raise a first flag for me.

Secondly, am I aware of the extend of the effects that can potentially cause with the given task. What I mean by this is upon the completion of the tasks, who will the software serve, who is its targeted user, and how big are these two numbers. Being able to understand and evaluate these three points is highly critical as it gives me an idea of the parties involve and could, potentially, help me figure out the effects that the software can cause be it negative or positive. From then, I’d decide if this raise the second flag for me.

Thirdly, assuming my first and second criteria have been established, do I know that the parties involve aware of all the potential effects this application have on them. If the parties involved around the application are made aware of its effects – signed agreement and/or electronical or written agreement that clearly states and lists out the usage and effect of the software, then this would be the last criteria for me to decide whether to raise the last flag or not.

With these criteria met and evaluated, I will make the final decision whether to take on the task or not. If all three flags are raised, the task given violated my personal value and ethics, and thus, I will have to decline it, even if it cost me my job.