

September 18, 2015

Divide County Court
PO Box 68
200 North Main Street
Crosby, ND 58730

Re: Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Ricky Schwiderson

Dear Court Representative:

I performed a Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Mr. Schwiderson in reference to his DUI charge in Divide County in July of 2014. This assessment included the administration of:

- Michigan Alcohol Screening Test (MAST)
- Alcohol Use Disorder Identification Test (AUDIT)
- General anxiety/depression screening
- Clinical interview by telephone

The following items provide a summary of the screening results, my diagnostic opinion and professional recommendations:

MAST: *NEGATIVE SCREEN*; no direct or indirect indication of problem alcohol use (screening appeared valid)

AUDIT: score = 1 / *NEGATIVE SCREEN*; scores of 8 or more indicate hazardous use, of 13 or more (women), 15 or more (men) indicates moderate to severe disorder present (respondent appeared to provide forthright responses to questions)

DSM/Other Substance Related Concerns: clinical interview revealed 0 of 11 DSM 5 alcohol related symptoms found. denies subtle indicators of problem alcohol use including pattern of mild hangovers, mild memory loss after use, repeat use to relieve emotional or work stress, previous treatment, conflict with significant others during or shortly after use of alcohol, guilt or regret associated with use

Anxiety/Depression Screening: no clinically significant concerns reported

Substance Related Legal History Reported: public intoxication charge; January, 2014

Clinical Interview/Summary: Mr. Schwiderson's written screenings provided no indication of an alcohol use disorder at any level (mild, moderate or severe). He reported his normal use of alcohol *prior to his charges* as 1-2 drinks or less on a monthly basis. He also acknowledged use of the same amount on special occasions (weddings, birthdays, etc.) on about 3 occasions per year. Mr. Schwiderson and I discussed his DUI incident as well as the circumstances around his public intoxication

charge and general use of alcohol at length but I was unable to find the incident or his overall history and presentation indicative of someone experiencing DSM 5 alcohol use disorder symptoms. Additionally, Mr. Schwiderson stated during his clinical interview that since the DUI incident in July of 2014, he has stopped drinking completely with no plans to resume use in the future. Although his clinical interview and written screenings did not reveal an alcohol use disorder, he feels that abstinence is more congruent with the healthy lifestyle he wishes to lead going forward.

It is my understanding that Mr. Schwiderson was directed by the court to attend a Victim Impact Panel. I find this to be sufficient in light of his charges and have no further treatment recommendations for him at this time.

DSM 5 DIAGNOSIS in reference to substances: V71.09 (none found)

Treatment Recommendations:

- 1) If another negative consequence is incurred as a result of any alcohol use it is recommended Mr. Schwiderson seek further evaluation and follow all treatment recommendations.

Thank you for the opportunity to assist the court, Mr. Schwiderson and yourself in this important matter.

Sincerely,



Anita McLeod, LCSW, SAP
cc: Mr. Schwiderson

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Diagnostic Conclusions / Limitations: Directions Counseling Group provides Clinical Alcohol Assessments based on objective and standardized screenings and interviewing methods as well as self-reported information. Clinical conclusions are made to the best of the professional's ability with data on hand at the time of the assessment. Expanded assessments which involve additional background research, collateral information and third party verification can be provided as an additional service upon request.

