

January 8, 2016

Jeffrey D. Levy, Attorney  
The Law Office of Attorney Jeffrey D. Levy  
420 Madison Avenue, Suite 1101  
Toledo, Ohio 43604

**Re: Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Nicholas Ziegenbusch**

Dear Mr. Levy:

I performed a Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Mr. Ziegenbusch in reference to his December 2015 disorderly conduct and criminal trespassing charges in Lucas County. This assessment included the administration of:

- A Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI-3)
- A Michigan Alcohol Screening Test (MAST)
- An Alcohol Use Disorder Identification Test (AUDIT)
- A General anxiety/depression screening
- 50 minute in-person clinical interview

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

**SASSI-3:** no scores indicative of an alcohol use disorder at any level (mild, moderate, or severe); screening was valid and covered lifetime frame of reference

**MAST:** score = 2 / *NEGATIVE SCREEN*; no direct or indirect indication of problem alcohol use; screening appeared valid and covered a lifetime frame of reference

**AUDIT:** score = 5 / *NEGATIVE SCREEN*; scores of 8 or more indicate hazardous use, scores of 15 or more indicates moderate to severe disorder present; respondent appeared to provide forthright responses to questions; past 12 months frame of reference

**DSM/Other Substance Related Concerns:** denies subtle indicators of problem alcohol use including pattern of mild hangovers, recurrent use to relieve emotional or work stress, previous treatment, conflict with significant others during or shortly after use of alcohol

**Present Use Status / DSM-5 symptoms:** last use of alcohol was 3 beers on NYE, has met 1 of 11 DSM-5 alcohol use disorder symptoms in the 12 months prior to the December 2015 charge

**Anxiety/Depression Screening:** no clinically significant concerns reported

**Substance Related Legal History Reported:** denies any previous history of alcohol or substance related arrests/legal charges

**Clinical Interview/Summary:** Mr. Ziegenbusch'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 before this charge as 2-3 standard drinks on 1-2 occasions per week. He also acknowledged use of 4-6 drinks on special occasions (weddings, birthdays, large social gatherings, etc.), on or about 3-4 occasions per year. Mr. Ziegenbusch and I discussed his December 2015 incident, his general use of alcohol, and World Health Organization standards for responsible alcohol use.

Mr. Ziegenbusch's clinical interview revealed one positive DSM-5 symptom: recurrent use beyond intention. I also discussed with him one other item of concern (sporadic binge use of alcohol) and assisted Mr. Ziegenbusch in identifying strategies to maintain his alcohol use at a responsible level per WHO standards. While Mr. Ziegenbusch's use of alcohol on the date of his charge was certainly excessive, I did not find evidence that such behavior is a recurrent pattern or that his use of alcohol has or is causing clinically significant impairment in his functioning. In my best clinical judgment I was unable to find the incident or his overall history and presentation as indicative of someone currently experiencing a DSM-5 alcohol use disorder.

If, however, the reader possesses additional information about Mr. Ziegenbusch's use of any substance I would be happy to review it and consider any appropriate modifications or amendments to the present report.

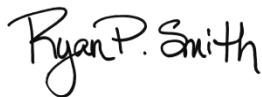
**DSM 5 DIAGNOSIS in reference to substances:** z03.89 suspected substance use disorder not found

**Treatment Recommendations:**

- 1) There are no further clinical recommendations at this time.
- 2) If another negative consequence is incurred as a result of any alcohol use within the next year, it is recommended Mr. Ziegenbusch seek further evaluation and follow all treatment recommendations where the minimum recommendation his outpatient counseling.

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

Sincerely,



Ryan Smith, LISW-S, LICDC, SAP  
SW Lic. # I.1000155-S, CD Lic. # 101182  
cc: Nicholas Ziegenbusch

**Prohibition against Re-Disclosure:** This information has been disclosed to you from records protected by Federal Confidentiality rules. The Federal rules prohibit you from making any further disclosure of this information unless further disclosure is expressly permitted by the written consent of the person to whom it pertains or as otherwise permitted by 42 C.F.R Part 2. A general authorization for the release of medical or other information is not sufficient for this purpose. The Federal rules restrict any use of information to criminally investigate or prosecute any alcohol or drug abuse client. Drug abuse patient records are also protected under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA"), 45 C.R.R parts 160 & 165. (These conditions apply to every page disclosed and a copy of this authorization will accompany every disclosure.)

**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.