

October 27, 2016

F.T Sessoms, Attorney at Law  
331 2nd Ave S #840  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

**Re: Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Kason B. Garner (DOB – 07/22/1991)**

Dear Mr. Sessoms:

I performed a Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Mr. Garner in reference to his August 2016 DWI charge in Stearns county. This assessment included a 55-minute clinical interview by telephone, and the administration of:

- A Michigan Alcohol Screening Test (MAST)
- An Alcohol Use Disorder Identification Test (AUDIT)
- A general anxiety/depression screening

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

**MAST:** *POSITIVE SCREEN*; direct and indirect indication of a present alcohol use disorder, mitigate concerns with clinical recommendations (screen relative to lifetime use of alcohol)

**AUDIT:** score = 3 / *NEGATIVE SCREEN*; scores of 8 or more indicate potential *hazardous use*, whereas scores of 15 or more in men indicate a *moderate to severe* disorder may be present (screen predominantly relative to current use of alcohol)

**Clinical Interview/Summary:** Mr. Garner's written screenings provided clear indications of an alcohol use disorder at some level. He was open in the clinical interview and shared information indicating 4 problem alcohol use symptoms (see below). While Mr. Garner does not have a history of daily alcohol use, he does appear to have a documented history of problem alcohol use, and his use of alcohol has historically exceeded what is "low-risk" for men by NIAAA standards.

Mr. Garner and I discussed his relationship with alcohol at length. While he described a major successful "cutback" in his alcohol consumption following his 2013 DWI, it appears Mr. Garner has not been successful in ongoing maintenance of a reduced alcohol use. Since his August DWI, Mr. Garner explained that he has had no desire to drink and has decided to abstain from alcohol indefinitely. He reported that he feels very secure and confident in his newfound sobriety and while this is commendable, I am making treatment recommendations to ensure that he has accessible professional support he may need to maintain this healthy life choice and improve his chance of long-term recovery. These recommendations come with the understanding that he has

been required to complete a MADD victim impact panel which fulfills what I would have required of him in terms of education.

**DSM-5 Alcohol Use Disorder Symptoms:**

- ☒ Use beyond intention
- ☐ Persistent desire or unsuccessful efforts to reduce/quit use
- ☒ Substantial time spent obtaining, using, or recovering from use
- ☐ Strong craving/desire
- ☒ Failure to fulfill a major role (work, home, school)
- ☐ Use despite recurrent social/interpersonal problems
- ☐ Important social, occupational, recreational activities relinquished
- ☒ Physically hazardous use
- ☐ Continued use despite knowledge of contraindicated physical or psychological condition
- ☐ Tolerance
- ☐ Withdrawal symptoms

Summary - 4 of 11 symptoms (Mild 2-3 | Moderate 4-5 | Severe 6+)

**DSM-5 DIAGNOSIS in Reference to Substances:** F10.20 Moderate Alcohol Use Disorder (Early Remission)

**Treatment Recommendations:**

- 1) Prevention-Focused Alcohol Counseling and Planning – 4-6 sessions with a substance abuse professional, frequency of twice a month, follow-up provider to update treatment recommendations and discharge as appropriate;
- 2) Monitoring – 12 months of monitoring with same counselor after initial counseling completed, meeting frequency at discretion of counselor;
- 3) If abstinence is compromised – it is likely that an increased level of treatment or additional support will be recommended at discretion of follow-up provider after further evaluation (e.g. IOP, Inpatient, support group attendance, etc.).

If you or the court possess additional information about Mr. Garner's use of alcohol that might impact the outcome of this assessment, I would be happy to review it and consider appropriate modifications or amendments to the present report.

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

Sincerely,



Trevor C. Davis, CDCA

Certificate # 150427

Reviewed by Ryan Smith, MSW, LISW-S, LICDC, SAP

SW Lic. #I.1000155-S; #101182

cc: Kason B. Garner

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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.