

January 14, 2015

Joseph Suhre, Attorney  
Suhre & Associates  
600 Vine Street, Suite 1004  
Cincinnati, OH 45202

**Re: Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Michele Burleson**

Dear Mr. Suhre:

I performed a Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Ms. Burleson in reference to her OVI charge in Warren County. This assessment included the administration of: a Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI-3), a Michigan Alcohol Screening Test (MAST), an anxiety/depression screening, and a 50 minute clinical interview by telephone. The following items provide a summary of the screening results, my diagnostic opinion and professional recommendations:

**MAST:** score = 1 / *NEGATIVE SCREEN*; no direct or indirect indication of problem alcohol use

**AUDIT:** score = 4 / *NEGATIVE SCREEN*; scores above 8 indicate hazardous use, above 13 indicates moderate to severe disorder present

**DSM/Other Substance Related Concerns:** denies subtle indicators of problem alcohol use including 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:** experiencing mild anxiety symptoms related to this legal charge; no indications of mental health emergency or crisis

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

**Clinical Interview/Summary:** Ms. Burleson's written screenings provided no indication of an alcohol use disorder at any level (mild, moderate or severe). She reported her normal use of alcohol as 2-3 drinks on 2-3 occasions per week with only marginally elevated use at an occasional celebration event. She appeared to be very shaken by this event and appropriately reflecting on the serious nature of her charge.

After discussing at length Ms. Burleson's OVI charge and general use of alcohol, I was unable to find the incident or her overall history and presentation indicative of someone experiencing DSM 5 alcohol use disorder symptoms. Her demeanor was non-defensive and she did not provide discrepant answers to questioning which would lead to the impression she was minimizing or covering for an alcohol use disorder.

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

**Treatment Recommendations:** Since I did not find Ms. Burleson meeting any DSM 5 alcohol use criteria I have no further professional recommendations for her at this time. If Ms. Burleson incurs another charge or experiences any negative consequences as a result of using alcohol I advise her to seek further evaluation and follow all professional recommendations.

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

Sincerely,



Brian Davis, LISW-S, SAP  
cc: Michele Burleson

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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.