

January 9, 2015

Ronda Tubbs, Probation Officer
375 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43084

Re: Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Kyle Sparks

Dear Ms. Tubbs:

I performed a Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Mr. Sparks in reference to his failure *to control* charge in August of 2014 in Franklin County. This assessment included the administration of: a Michigan Alcohol Screening Test (MAST), an Alcohol Use Disorder Identification Test (AUDIT), an anxiety/depression screening, and a clinical interview by telephone. The following items provide a summary of the screening results, my diagnostic opinion and professional recommendations:

MAST: screening revealed some misuse of alcohol over the past 5 years

AUDIT: score = 6 / *NEGATIVE SCREEN*; scores above 8 indicate hazardous use, above 13 indicates moderate to severe disorder present

DSM/Other Substance Related Concerns: screening revealed 3 of 11 DSM 5 symptoms present; use beyond intention, physically hazardous use, previous legal consequences, possible tolerance indications, 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: no clinically significant concerns reported

Substance Related Legal History Reported: acknowledges April, 2009 OVI (BAC: .203), *failure to control charge*, August, 2014

Clinical Interview/Summary: Mr. Sparks written screenings provided conflicting results with his *negative* AUDIT result, positive MAST and 3 of 11 DSM 5 symptoms present which indicate a mild alcohol use disorder. He reported his normal use of alcohol as 2-5 drinks on 2-4 occasions per month. He also acknowledged use of 6-8 drinks on special occasions (weddings, birthdays, etc.) on about 10 occasions per year. We discussed both Mr. Sparks OVI incident from 2009 as well as his failure to control charge from August of 2014 as well as his general use of alcohol at length. He was cooperative and non-defensive throughout the interview. However, due to his previous OVI, his most recent charge, the conflicting results of his written screenings and 3 of 11 DSM 5 criteria met, I am recommending some follow-up with a substance abuse counselor to determine possible indications of tolerance and other factors consistent with a mild alcohol use disorder. Although Mr. Sparks indicates that he has decreased his amount of alcohol consumption which is positive in light of his charges, he has also been ordered to attend alcohol education and a victim impact panel as a result of his charges *both* in 2009 and 2014. My clinical opinion is that 3-4 sessions with a substance abuse

professional is warranted for further screening as well as being advantageous for him to gain a clearer perspective of the dangers associated with overuse of alcohol going forward. Additionally, I conclude that as a result of further screening he will gain needed insight into any further personal and legal consequences of alcohol overuse being an impediment to the bright future he has been working towards in civil engineering.

DSM 5 DIAGNOSIS in reference to substances: 305.00 mild alcohol use disorder

Treatment Recommendations:

- 1) Counseling, recommend 3-4 outpatient sessions with a professional substance abuse counselor; update recommendations at session four;
- 2)
- 3) If another negative consequence is incurred as a result of any alcohol use it is recommended Mr. Sparks seek further evaluation and follow all treatment recommendations.

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

Sincerely,



Anita McLeod, LCSW, SAP
cc: Kyle Sparks

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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.