

February 11, 2015

Cortland County Court System
1176 Church Street
Virgil, NY 13045

Re: Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Christopher Costa

Dear Cortland Court Representative:

I performed a Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Costa in reference to his Obstruction of Investigation charge in Cortland County. This assessment included the administration of: a Michigan Alcohol Screening Test (MAST), Alcohol Use Disorder Identification Test (AUDIT), an anxiety/depression screening, and a 55 minute in-person videoconference clinical interview. 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 = 3 / *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 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: denies any previous history of alcohol or substance related arrests/legal charges

Clinical Interview/Summary: Mr. Costa's written screenings provided no indication of an alcohol use disorder at any level (mild, moderate or severe). He reported normal use of alcohol as 1-2 drinks on 1 or less occasion per week. He also acknowledged use of 2-3 drinks on special occasions (weddings, birthdays, etc.). His verbal report and written screenings did not reveal inconsistencies, discrepancies or suspicion of him minimizing problem alcohol use. Mr. Costa and I discussed the incident leading to his Obstruction of Investigation charge and his 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. Further, I did not find indications that he had met criteria for a disorder in the past.

DSM 5 DIAGNOSIS in reference to substances: V 71.09 (none found)

Treatment Recommendations: Since I did not find Mr. Costa meeting DSM 5 criteria for an alcohol use disorder at any level, nor significant hereditary or other alcohol use risk factors, I have no further recommendations for him at this time. If another negative

consequence is incurred as a result of any alcohol use it is recommended Mr. Costa seek further evaluation and follow all treatment recommendations.
Thank you for the opportunity to assist the court, and Mr. Costa in this important matter.

Sincerely,



Brian Davis, LISW-S, SAP
cc: Christopher Costa

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.