

May 26, 2015

Iowa Department of Motor Vehicles  
800 Lincoln Way  
Ames, IA 50010

**Re: Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Candice Murray**

Dear DMV Representative:

I performed a Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Ms. Murray in reference to her DUI charge in the state of Iowa. This assessment included the administration of:

- Michigan Alcohol Screening Test (MAST)
- Alcohol Use Disorder Identification Test (AUDIT)
- General anxiety/depression screening
- 45 minute clinical interview

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

**MAST:** *NEGATIVE SCREEN*; no direct or indirect indication of problem alcohol use (screening appeared valid)

**AUDIT:** score = 3 / *NEGATIVE SCREEN*; scores above 8 indicate hazardous use, above 13 indicates moderate to severe disorder present (respondent appeared to provide forthright responses to questions)

**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:** DUI in March of 2012

**Clinical Interview/Summary:** Ms. Murray'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 1-2 occasions per month. She also acknowledged use of 4-6 drinks on special occasions (weddings, birthdays, etc.) on about 2-3 occasions per year. Ms. Murray and I discussed her DUI incident and general use of alcohol at length but I was unable to find the incident or her overall history and presentation indicative of someone experiencing DSM 5 alcohol use disorder symptoms. Ms. Murray indicated that she has previously engaged in alcohol education, outpatient treatment and successfully completed a 7 day inpatient alcohol treatment

program approximately 1 year ago. I agree with the court that this was an appropriate measure due to her 2 lifetime DUI's (at ages 21 and 23). My clinical opinion is that social situations were a factor in her charges as well as an overall lack of effective problem-solving skills during both incidents. Ms. Murray was able to articulate lifestyle changes, effective use of problem-solving skills and effective ways to avoid alcohol related incidents going forward. As a result, I believe she has gained valuable insight as well as maturity over time to make better decisions in the future related to alcohol use. Therefore, I have no additional professional treatment recommendations at this time.

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

**Treatment Recommendations:**

- 1) If another negative consequence is incurred as a result of any alcohol use it is recommended Ms. Murray seek further evaluation and follow all treatment recommendations.

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

Sincerely,



Anita McLeod, LCSW, SAP  
cc: Candice Murray

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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.