

July 3, 2016

Ben Luftman, Attorney at Law Luftman, Heck & Associates LLP 580 E. Rich Street 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Trista Cramer (DOB – 01/19/1971)

Dear Mr. Luftman:

I performed a Clinical Alcohol Assessment for Mrs. Cramer in reference to her April 2016 OVI charge in Franklin County. This assessment included a 60-minute in-person clinical interview, and the administration of:

- A Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI-3)
- 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:

**SASSI-3**: overall scores indicated a *low probability* of a moderate to severe substance use disorder; scores were negative for rules #1-9; screening was valid and covered a lifetime frame of reference;

**MAST:** score = 3 / *Inconclusive result*; all points were related to respondent's April 2016 incident; screening did not provide sufficient evidence to suggest problem alcohol use;

**AUDIT:** score = 7 / NEGATIVE SCREEN; scores of 8 or more indicate hazardous use, scores of 13 or more in men indicates moderate to severe disorder present;

Alcohol Use Risk Factors:		
☐ legal history		
⊠ severity of incident – memory impairmen	t	
☐ anxiety/depression/mental health		
□ general health issues - Gout		
☐ exposure to trauma		
☐ use of liquor – N/A		
☐ other substance use – N/A		
☐ contraindicated prescription use		
☐ family history – N/A		

prior treatment history – N/A
negative peer influence
at-risk work environment
current stress (relational, work, etc.)

Summary - 2 of 12 concerns, mitigate concern with clinical recommendations

**Clinical Interview/Summary**: Mrs. Cramer's written screenings provided no overt indications of an alcohol use disorder at any level (mild, moderate or severe). She reported her normal use of alcohol over the past two years as 3-5 drinks on 3-4 occasions per week. She acknowledged use of 6-8 drinks on special occasions or celebratory events on approximately 5 occasions per year.

Mrs. Cramer and I discussed her April 2016 incident and her historical use of alcohol at length. Mrs. Cramer and I reviewed World Health Organization criteria on low risk problem alcohol use. In my clinical judgment, I was unable to find the incident or her overall history and presentation indicative of someone experiencing DSM-5 alcohol use disorder symptoms. However, Mrs. Cramer's alcohol use does fall outside of NIAAA/WHO guidelines responsible alcohol consumption on approximately 5 occasions per year. Mrs. Cramer appeared receptive to psychoeducation on low risk alcohol use and verbalized her desire and commitment to reducing her overall alcohol consumption. Clinically, it is in Mrs. Cramer's best interest to reduce her overall alcohol use even if she does not meet DSM-5 criteria for an alcohol use disorder.

SUMMARY – While Mrs. Cramer's April 2016 incident is alarming and concerning, I did not find evidence that her alcohol use on that occasion or in general meets DSM-5 criteria for an alcohol use disorder. I am recommending that she complete alcohol awareness education to increase her understanding of the dangers of excessive alcohol use and enhance her commitment to reducing her alcohol use.

**DSM-5 DIAGNOSIS in Reference to Substances**: Z03.89 (suspected alcohol use condition not found); Rule out F10.10 alcohol use disorder, mild

## **Treatment Recommendations:**

- 1) <u>Preventative Education</u> 9 hrs. of Ohio Health's Drug/Alcohol Awareness Series (Riverside Methodist Hospital contact 614-566-3700)
- 2) If another negative consequence is incurred as a result of any alcohol use or if Mrs. Cramer finds it difficult to reduce her alcohol consumption, it is recommended that she seek further evaluation and follow all updated treatment recommendations.

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



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

Sincerely, Ryan P. Smith

Ryan P. Smith MSW, LISW-S, LICDC, SAP SW Lic. #I.1000155-S, CD Lic. #101182

cc: Trista Cramer

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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.



