

## INFORMED CONSENT FOR FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

You have been referred to Shannae Anderson, PhD to talk with you to make some decisions about your legal situation. After you have talked with me, a report will be written to the person who referred you to my office. Any private report written to your attorney will remain under attorney client confidentiality unless your attorney determines that it should be given to the court, at which time, it will not be confidential. Any report that is ordered by the court may be available both to your attorney and to the prosecutor. I will use my professional judgment as to what will be included in this report, but anything that you say to me may be used in that report to the court.

Additionally, I may be asked to testify in court and may be asked about anything that you have told me. You have the right to choose not to speak with me. After you begin the interview, you may ask to stop the interview at any time. You also have the right to speak with your attorney about this evaluation. If you decide to not talk with me, this may be included in any report to the court or to your attorney.

I have been asked to conduct a psychological assessment of you in connection with your legal case. This form was written to give you information about this assessment process. This document is for the sole purpose of facilitating a forensic psychological evaluation and not for therapy. You are therefore not a patient of Dr. Anderson and the therapist-patient confidentiality and privilege is not applicable. The goal of this assessment is to answer questions about you and the difficulties you may be having. The assessment will include an interview and psychological tests.

As part of the interview, I will ask you about yourself, your life and circumstances regarding your legal case. If there are any questions that make you uncomfortable, please let me know so that we can discuss them. I will be giving you several standard psychological tests. We will discuss the instructions in detail, and it will be important that you understand them. If at any point, you are unclear as to the instructions, please let me know immediately so that we can ensure that you understand.

In the final part of the evaluation, I will be reviewing records and talking with people, such as attorneys, family members, friends, co-workers, physician, clergy, and/or current/former therapist whose names I will obtain from you, to get more information about you. This is to help me find materials that would provide outside corroboration to what you tell me. Upon signing this form, you are providing me with a release and giving me permission to contact people relevant to your case. I will only contact these people with your permission and will not share information about you during those contacts.

It is important that you be as honest as possible when responding to the items on the standardized tests, providing information during the interview, and your response to the assessment. Information that is withheld, incomplete, wrong, or misleading may be far more damaging than if I am able to find out about it now and put it in the context of my report or testimony. It is important for us to discuss any concerns you have in this area. Although I will try to be thorough when I interview you, I may not ask about some areas or information that you believe are important. If so, please tell me so that we can discuss it.

Please read each item carefully and sign below indicating that you understand.

- I understand that my psychological status is being evaluated in connection with my legal case.
- I understand that this release is for the purpose of facilitating forensic consultation and not for therapy and there is no therapist-patient privilege or confidentiality.
- I understand that this release is not a waiver of any attorney work-product privilege or attorney-client privilege should either of such privileges otherwise be available or in effect.
- I understand that Dr. Anderson may write a formal report about me based on the results of this assessment if requested.
- I understand that Dr. Anderson may testify about me and this assessment in deposition and trial(s) related to my legal case.
- I understand that even if I interrupt or discontinue with the assessment, it is possible (depending on applicable laws, on rulings by the court, and/or decisions by the attorney in this case) that Dr. Anderson may be called upon to submit a report and testify about the assessment, even if the assessment is incomplete.
- I understand that Dr. Anderson consults with other professionals as part of her evaluation practice for mutual professional consultation. I understand that she engages in research and professional conferences in which anonymous evaluation material that I provide may be utilized for these purposes. I understand that my name and unique identifying characteristics will not be disclosed in any research or professional presentations.
- I understand that as part of conducting this forensic evaluation, Dr. Anderson may consult with and exchange information with anyone that may be relevant to this legal matter.
- I understand that state laws may require Dr. Anderson to disclose otherwise privileged information in situations of suspected child or elder abuse, of suspected potential harm to oneself or to another, in instances where the court shall order the disclosure of privileged information, or information to a subpoena for these records.
- I understand that, unless noted otherwise below, a photocopy of this form and my signature is as valid as the original.
- In consideration of Dr. Anderson's agreement to perform this service, I release her and each entity from any liability that might directly or indirectly result from the exchange of any information covered by this agreement.

- I take sole responsibility for the information exchanged may be detrimental and damaging to me or to my legal position.
- I agree that this is a legally binding document and that I fully understand the rights, privacy, and privileges that I waive by signing this agreement.
- I agree that if this is a report not funded by the court that no report shall be released until the professional fee is paid in full.
- By signing below, I indicate that I understand and agree to the nature and purpose of this assessment, to the ways in which it may be reported, and to each of the points listed above.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_