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Mental Health Assessment

Client name: James Lawence

Date of Birth: 12/15/1965

Dates of Service: 8/23/2022, 8/30/2022, 9/13/2022, 9/20/2022, 9/27/2022

Presenting Problem: Client was referred by Probation and the Courts for a Mental Health Evaluation. He has been participating in a domestic violence program and due to his participation was considered to be disruptive in sessions and a mental health evaluation was requested to determine if he needs additional services or support.

History of Presenting Problem:

This recent involvement with the courts is a result of an email that he sent to a tenant which he says was a Misdemeanor. He says in it he told the tenant he advised her not she should not cause his parents any more stress and she should take this advice. He says this was the only contact he had with her. He says he was not in this area when he sent the email but was arrested Feb 2019 and had a trial 2021. He was thinking that he really did not do anything wrong so when he did go to trial and he was surprised that he was convicted. He said the recommendation had been probation only but he was sentenced to 90 days and one year probation. He also has to complete a domestic violence program because apparently he did have a sexual relationship with this tenant before he left the area.

Prior to this there was one situation in March 2018 when he was arrested for breach of peace for “invading the personal space of a woman in a market” He says he had gone up to a woman in her car to say hello, she became scared and the police were called. He says there was no conviction. He reports that this led to other women then coming forward claiming he had been harassing them in public places according to media reports and police reports but he says he was not aware of these. He states that after his arrest in Feb 2019 the media published many articles about him, presenting him as a staker and accusing him of harassing women with no proof. He says this has made him very angry and is in fact pursuing legal recourse against the media and the police as he feels there were many lies in the investigations and warrants in the earlier investigations. He feels the media is a smear campaign. He says this media attack and what he feels was improper and unfair police actions traumatized him. He feels this follows him

everywhere now and has been living more in hiding, almost like a ghost, for fear of being singled out, accused and judged. He says the recent case brought back some of the trauma when the trial was first taking place.

Family History:

Client's parents live in Florida. He grew up in Westport, CT. This is why all the new in Westport papers is so upsetting to him as this is his home base. He has a younger brother who is a musician. He says he has a great relationship with him. He has never been married and has no children.

Educational/Vocational History

Client completed high school and attended college in Florida. He studied Psychology and Political Science.. He has some corporate jobs but only part time and says he was really interested in more political and social positions. Had considered law. Currently he is only doing contracting jobs - painting, landscaping.

Mental Status:

Neatly dressed, well groomed. Oriented x3. Calm in presentation but mood is somewhat anxious. Speech is pressured and rapid at times. Memory and concentration are good. His judgment and insight are good. There is no evidence of auditory, visual or tactile hallucinations, delusions. He denies all areas of risk, no suicidal ideation and no homicidal ideation.

Formulation/Recommendation:

Client is 56 year old single male who is facing issues of anxiety dealing with past legal problems and media portrayals of him which have left him feeling vulnerable and treated unfairly. He has become overwhelmed and sometimes singled focused on exacting amends and redress for the damage he has felt over the past few years.

Concerning the current legal issues he has come to grips understanding that the email he wrote was considered harassment and not written properly. He is complying with all court requirements. He acknowledges that the trial was somewhat traumatic for him and triggered some of the trauma of past injustices immediately after his arrest. In his initial work in treatment he has come to understand that he needs to separate his issues from the other situation and focus on work he needs to do in the present. He would benefit from an additional short term treatment course - up to 6 sessions - to help him continue to learn strategies to manage his anxiety, learn to discern places, people and places to seek support and continue to plan for his future. He is ready to return to the domestic violence program.

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Electronically signed by Elba I Crespo, PhD on October 10/7/2022