



A strength-guided, goal-oriented approach to the positive growth and development of people and services.

Assessment Critiques – Referral Form

At times one or other party may be unsatisfied with their child custody and/or access assessment. An assessment critique offers a critical review of the assessment in view of standards of practice as set out within the professions of social work, psychology and psychiatry. Further the critique can provide comment on the reasonableness of recommendations in view of social science research on data provided within the assessment report.

More specifically, an assessment critique provided herein addresses such issues as:

1. The qualifications/credentials of the assessor: Is the assessor qualified to provide the assessment and is the assessor a member of his or her professional association in good standing?
2. Assessment process: Has the assessor followed generally established guidelines and procedures for conducting an assessment?
3. Multiple sources of information: Has the assessor relied upon several sources of information to provide checks and balance to the data?
4. Internal integrity of the report: Do the recommendations make sense in view of the observations and data collected directly by the assessor?
5. External integrity of the report: Is there consistency with the data collected by the assessor from outside sources of information and do the recommendations make sense in terms of this cumulative data?
6. Best interests of the child: Do the recommendations provide for the best interests of the children particularly with regard to safety, development and opportunity for ongoing meaningful relationships?
7. The scientific bases for recommendations: Has the assessor shown an understanding of social science research either in the formulation of their assessment data and/or in the recommendations and does the social science research support the recommendations.

The assessment critique, like the assessment, should be independent and unbiased. An assessment critique is not intended to provide a one-sided assessment. An assessment critique does not include re-interviewing either party, children or collateral contacts. An assessment critique may not find fault with the assessment, or even in view of fault, the assessment critique may still support the report or recommendations overall. An assessment critique does not guarantee therefore, an opinion contrary to that of the assessment or a finding of fault. Lastly the assessment critique does NOT include meeting or interviewing either party subject to the assessment. The only material to be reviewed is the actual assessment.

The assessment critique is available for consultation purposes only to inform as to the merits of the case based on the information, format and process of the assessment.

This service is closed meaning I will not provide a report for court purposes and nor can I be called or subpoenaed to court to testify with regard to this service.

Assessment critiques require on average, 2 - 5 hours to complete, depending on the length of the assessment and depending on the length of time to provide a verbal report.

Fee:

The fee for this service is \$400.00/r + HST. A retainer for 3 hours is required (\$1,356.00 which includes the HST).

Third Party Payments (EAP and other Benefit Providers):

Please be advised that I do not accept payment by third party payers (benefit or EAP providers) whatsoever. People are directly responsible for payment of services as per the information above at the time of service. A receipt will be provided with which persons can seek reimbursement from their EAP or benefit provider. I take no responsibility for your reimbursement.

Reimbursement remains a matter between you and your benefit or EAP provider.

If you do seek reimbursement through your benefit or EAP provider and I am called to verify the charge, I will do so with your implied consent. My disclosure will be limited to advising of my credentials as well as verifying the billing information, service provided and persons served.

Please note, assessment is a clinical-legal service and may not be covered. No information regarding the nature or content of information discussed will be provided without signed consent, for which you will be charged as per the time required.

Declaration – Certificate of Independent Legal Advice – Referral Form

I _____ have read the above. I understand the entirety of the above and agree that Gary Direnfeld will not represent his findings at Court whether in person or by report and that any information he may provide with regard to my assessment is for consultation purposes only and will remain private.

Client Signature

Date

Client Address

Include assessment with this form.