

Attorney CST Questionnaire

TO (Client's Attorney): _____

FROM (Evaluator): _____ DATE: _____

Your client, _____, (Docket # _____) has been referred to me for evaluation of competency to stand trial. I would greatly appreciate your completion of the following form, which will provide valuable assistance in conducting this evaluation. Please do not hesitate to phone me if you have any questions. My contact information is as follows:

Telephone _____ FAX _____ Email _____

Agency & Address: _____

Who brought your client's competency to the attention of the court?

- Myself
- Prosecuting Attorney
- Court's own motion
- Probation officer
- Detention staff
- Arresting officers
- Client's family
- Other: _____

What factors, if any, contributed to the perceived need for a competency evaluation?

Check all that apply Describe factors checked

- History of mental illness _____
- History of psychiatric medication _____
- History of psychiatric hospitalization _____
- History of counseling/therapy _____
- History of mental retardation _____
- Difficulty communicating with client _____
- Client's unusual behavior _____
- Other _____

One aspect of competency is the client's understanding of the charges and the associated possible dispositions. To assist me in evaluating this, please describe:

The charges against your client: _____

The nature of the dispositions that your client might face, given these charges and your client's past record: _____

Please describe any collateral consequences or added stressors in the client's life that I should consider when interacting with this client:

Another aspect of competency is the client's ability to assist counsel and to manage the attorney-client relationship in a way that does not detract from the opportunity to develop the defense. Below, please indicate any factors that you have seen detract from these objectives and describe how. Check all that apply. Describe factors checked.

- Easily confused _____
- Detached or indifferent _____
- Depressed _____
- Hostile, aggressive, defiant _____
- Inattentive or distracted _____
- Immature or childlike _____
- Difficulty communicating things _____
- Difficulty understanding you _____
- Difficulty retaining information _____
- Disorganized speech _____
- Peculiar/Odd statements or beliefs _____
- Seeing/Hearing things not present _____
- Very bizarre behavior _____
- Other _____
- Have observed nothing detracting from attorney-client interaction

Competency is in part a comparison of the client's abilities to the demands of his or her case. Please describe the likelihood of the following demands for this client's case (circle one response for each).

1.	Is likely to have to make a decision about a plea agreement	No	Unlikely	Don't know	Likely	Definitely
2.	Evidence against client is unclear and the defense largely depends on the client's ability to provide information	No	Unlikely	Don't know	Likely	Definitely
3.	Case will involve many adverse witnesses	No	Unlikely	Don't know	Likely	Definitely
4.	Client will need to testify in the case	No	Unlikely	Don't know	Likely	Definitely
5.	The pre-adjudication process will be lengthy	No	Unlikely	Don't know	Likely	Definitely
6.	The adjudication hearing will be lengthy	No	Unlikely	Don't know	Likely	Definitely
7.	The adjudication hearing will be complex (e.g., difficult to follow, complicated evidence)	No	Unlikely	Don't know	Likely	Definitely
8.	Please provide any additional information that is relevant to the client's case in terms of demands	_____				

Thank you for this information. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.