



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS & PROBATION

## ***Service Interpretive Guidelines*** **Substance Use Evaluation**

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### **SERVICE DEFINITION:**

A Substance Use Evaluation is a clinical, strengths-based evaluation of an individual experiencing substance use symptoms. This evaluation must be completed prior to the initiation of any substance use treatment services. The Substance Use Evaluation is a process of gathering information to assess client functioning and needs based on identification of the presenting problem, evaluation of past and present symptoms, formulation of a diagnostic impression (as applicable) and recommendation for treatment services/strategies.

The Substance Use Evaluation will include a substance use diagnostic impression (as applicable), history of substance use symptoms, trauma history/symptoms, criminogenic risk, risk of harm to self and/or others, the youth's perception of the situation and collateral information. Based on the evaluation, recommendations are provided and justified for appropriate behavioral health services and treatment.

The Substance Use Evaluation may include a recommendation for further mental health evaluation, if supported and not already identified. The evaluation will meet all of the requirements of the Standardized Model for the Delivery of Substance Use Services.

### **TARGET POPULATION:**

This evaluation assists in addressing youth who have risk and needs related to substance use symptoms. The outcome of this evaluation is for diagnosis and recommendations if applicable. Officer is responsible for reviewing all youth's screenings/risk assessments to determine if the youth has a need for further evaluation due to substance use symptoms.

### **PROBATION/PROBLEM SOLVING COURT OFFICER (OFFICER) RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Officer shall work with the youth and family to determine a Registered Service Provider (RSP) to conduct the evaluation.
- Officer will inform the RSP the reason for the referral for the evaluation (use of substances, type of substances etc.).

- Officer will send the Simple Screening Instrument (SSI) results to the Registered Service Provider indicating a need for a referral for a Substance Use Evaluation.
- Officer will verbally communicate with the RSP if the evaluation is a 21 or 30 day evaluation. The RSP must be made aware of the timeline for the court.
- Officer will **verbally communicate** with the RSP to provide all collateral information to assist with the completion of the evaluation.
- Officer will utilize the evaluation worksheets to ensure the following:
  1. All evaluations should lead to an applicable diagnosis.
  2. All evaluations should lead to a clinical recommendation for a **treatment** service, which could include a result of no clinical recommendation
  3. Evaluations should NOT recommend non-treatment, out-of-home placement or detention and evaluations should NOT identify or refer to particular agencies offering the recommended service
- Officer will utilize the RSP's clinical recommendations to assist in developing the individualized success plan.
- Officer will complete engagements outlining information related to the evaluation being completed.