

Confidential Defense Map for James White (Jim)

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Juvenile case

- a. Understands the purpose of the website work and confidentiality?: Yes.
- **b.** Claim/charge against client: Truancy for being out of school for about 4 months. Marijuana possession.
- c. Court/Locale: Elkhart County, Indiana, USA.

Birth/Race/Gender

d. Age: 15.

e. Race: White.; Not Hispanic/Latino.

f. Gender: Male.

Contact information

- g. Address: 1766 S. West St., Indianapolis, IN. This is with my father right now. Sometimes I say with my mom and sometimes with friends.
- h. Primary Telephone: 317-990-8733.
- i. Email: JQWHITE99@surfinghere.net.
- j. Emergency Contacts:
 - 1. Harold White / Dad / 317-770-8362 / hal7788P@aol.com.

Professional(s): Kylea Asher, Ph.D. (Allied Professional); Charlie Asher (Attorney).



Important notes to client on use of this Defense Map and these 10 Flags.

- ✓ The following 10 Flags may help you and your attorney in deciding on the best steps to take. But, the entire report is important, so read it all carefully. Take notes for your next discussion with your attorney.
- ✓ You can log back on as often as you want to add more information.
- ✓ Clients can often help their cases by considering any personal changes they'd like to make in their lives. Even one positive change can help many cases.
- Client's sense of personal safety (Section 2, p. 4): The client reports feeling "Mostly unsafe."
- 2. Emergency needs (Section 2, p. 4): The client reports some emergency needs.
- 3. How fair the client considers the charges (Section 3, p. 4): Mostly fair.
- 4. Of 12 important childhood assets, 10 reported as either partially or totally missing (Section 8, p. 6).
- 5. 7 significant life challenges reported (Section 9, p. 7).
- 6. **Drug use acknowledged** (Section 13, p. 8): Used 100-150 times.; 2 drug-related problems acknowledged.
- 7. PTSD issue disclosed (Section 15, p. 8).
- 8. Mood and functioning issues (Section 16, p. 8): 3 possible issues disclosed.
 - Depression: 3 significant responses.
 - Anxiety, worry, and nervousness: 4 significant responses.
 - More anger than most people seem to have: 1 significant responses.
- Vision and goals shared (Section 18, p. 9).
- 10. Advocacy wishes described (Section 19, p. 9).

Action ideas of attorney and client after reading this Flags page:						
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Summary of Sections

Part A: Legal

- 1. Most on the client's mind (p. 4).
- 2. Client's safety/Emergency needs (p. 4).
- 3. This case (p. 4).
- 4. Past arrests, cases, or legal troubles (p. 5).

Part B: Basic Profile

- 5. Client's life overall (p. 5).
- 6. Home and family life (p. 5).
- 7. Other important relationships (p. 6).
- 8. Good things in the client's life (p. 6).
- 9. Challenges in the client's childhood (p. 7).
- 10. School/education (p. 7).
- 11. Jobs/work (p.).

Part C: Specific Issues

- 12. Alcohol use (p. 7).
- 13. Drug use (p. 8).
- 14. Health (p. 8).
- 15. PTSD/Repeating bad memories or nightmares (p. 8).
- 16. Mood and functioning issues (p. 8).
- 17. Counseling (p. 9).

Part D: Life Assets, Challenges, Vision, and Goals

- 18. Vision and goals (p. 9).
- 19. Wants known in this case (p. 9).

Sections

Part A: Legal

1. Most on the client's mind (Up to Flags Page)

What's most on the client's mind: Honestly, it's a hassle for me that other people are telling me how to live. I'd rather they just lived their lives and let me live mine.

2. Client's safety/Emergency needs (Up to Flags Page)

- a. Client's sense of personal safety: Mostly unsafe. My world, I'd say, is "mostly unsafe" because my parents can't be trusted around each other. They're violent, often drunk, and completely unpredictable.
- **b. Emergency needs?:** Yes. I feel I nee my parents in counseling that a judge orders and monitors. They are dangerous but cover it up completely.

3. This case (Up to Flags Page)

a. What happened: I've been skipping school for about 4 months, usually going to some friend's house, smoking pot, and messing around.

My parents have been so off in their world that they haven't bothered with me. But about 2 weeks ago the school authorities contacted them and, I guess, told them they had to do something. Then they acted like they were all concerned. They are big in the business and country club community, and I think they really just snapped into action to try to keep from being embarrassed.

Anyway, my dad tracked me down at a friend's house and demanded that I come home. I got pissed that he was pretending to be a real dad all of a sudden and told him to F-off.

I guess he called the police, and they found me walking to the mall. I had just bought about a half ounce of pot, so they charged me with that., too.

Really, I think my parents were embarrassed by the call they got about my skipping school (which they already knew I was doing) and want to look like model parents all of a sudden.

- **b.** How fair the client considers the claims/charges: Mostly fair. I did this stuff, yeah. But it's not what's really wrong with my family or in my life. That's how I look at it.
- c. What the client thinks caused this: I was a decent student (B-B+) and was doing fine until about 2-1/2 years ago and my parents started this unbelievably stupid divorce. I don't care anymore if they get divorced, but their constant hateful fighting, wanting me to take sides, fighting and then going to court and then having sex and then starting all over--it's sickening.

I think a lot of the reason I stopped going to school was to get even with them. But when they didn't care enough to say or do anything (and just stayed in their hateful world), I just kept skipping and doing weed.

- **d.** Talked to police or anyone else about this?: No. My parents know what they've been doing, and I guess the school and police know I've been breaking theirs rules.
- e. Done this before?: No. Well, I never skipped school like this. I did marijuana a few times last year.
- f. Likely to do this again?: Yes. At this stage of things, I don't feel like working to make things different or better. I'd like to go live somewhere else, and I'm not sure I will want to go back to school or quit pot.
- g. Feels how bad about anything he/she did in this case: Not bad at all. Honestly, I'd say this is a sane response to an insane world.
- h. Client's thoughts on what should happen in this case: I think my parents should be forced into counseling, should get their damn divorce over, and have nothing to do with each other. And I think I should be able to live with my aunt and uncle and figure out my own way in life.
- i. Anything else the client wants counsel to know about the case?: No.

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4. Past arrests, cases, or legal troubles (Up to Flags Page)

- a. Any prior arrests or charges?: No.
- b. Other legal problems?: No.
- c. Wants counsel to know about anything else that could have led to legal troubles?: No.

Part B: Basic Profile

5. Client's life overall (Up to Flags Page)

- a. Proud of: Success in sports, all As in my AP classes (when I was going), and lately, telling my parents to F-off.
- **b.** Ways client has helped others: I think I help the new friends I have, at least by telling them I don't think they're losers (which is what they hear a lot).

I used to encourage my other friends (the ones in school still). I used to do a lot of volunteering at the YMCA with younger kids who had trouble fitting in with the better athletes, more popular kids, and bullies.

I was a ridiculously good kid at home. This was the one and only freaking thing my parents ever asked for that I didn't do for them.

c. Hardest or scariest parts of client's life: See what I've written.

My parents fight in every awful way. I've had to listen to them say the worst thing about each other. There have been two times when it got really physical. Actually, my mom has slapped or hit my dad many times, but twice my dad went back at her and was holding her on the floor and choking her.

They both drink way too much.

They've both had affairs and argue about that. They seem to want me to hear. Then, crazy enough, they'll sometimes end up having sex, and within a week the circus repeats.

They should be ashamed of how they have acted in their divorce. They spend a ton of money to get lawyers to say awful things about the other and embarrass each other in court. Then they fight over having no money and how much the other one supposedly spent in their stupid court fights. And crazy enough, the fights LOOK like they're over me (child support, where I'm supposed to be, etc.), but they don't even care where I am. Or if they win a hearing to spend a certain holiday with one of them, we don't even do anything together—they're just glad to "chalk up a win" and are too tired from the battle to give a shit about doing anything with me.

There's more.

- d. Feels helped most by: My aunt and uncle.
- e. Feels hurt/torn down most by: My parents.
- **f.** Client's worries: God, I don't know. I guess any time my parents are together.
- **g. Most wishes had not happened:** My parents' drinking, fighting, and refusal to just get their divorce over.
- h. Things client most wishes were different today: Live with my aunt and uncle.
- i. Other important or interesting things about client: That's about it.

6. Home and family life (Up to Flags Page)

a. Lives with: When I'm not just out and living with friends, I stay either in my old home with my mom or with my dad in the basement of his friend Hal Jenkins.

My relationship with each of my parents is really bad right now. I'm disgusted with how they've acted for the last two years--in all the--ways I've already said.

b. Relationship with mother: Poor (0 out of 3). She should know better than the way she's acting. She doesn't care what this is doing to me but then (a) goes to court telling the judge about "the best interests of Jimmy" and (b) is now acting like she cares about my schooling, attendance, pot use, etc.

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It's sickening.

- c. Relationship with father: Poor (0 out of 3). Same as my mom.
- d. Ever lived with (or raised by) an adult other than a parent?: No.
- e. Methods of discipline/punishment:
 - 1. Having a calm talk with me about how I could do better.
 - 2. Making me fix a problem I caused.
 - 3. Giving me a timeout.
- f. History of neglect or abuse cases in home?: No.
- g. Anyone else think there was a problem in how the client has been treated or raised?: Yes. My aunt and uncle for the last two years have said things about how sorry they are for what I'm having to live with.
- h. If it were client's choice, preference on who to live with: Definitely my aunt and uncle, Charlene and Ken Hayes. THANK YOU FOR ASKING THIS. I WISH SOMEONE IN MY PARENTS' DIVORCE WORLD CARE ABOUT THIS.
- i. Ever lived away from family?: No.
- j. Any family member ever lived away?: Yes. Just in the sense that my dad moved out and into the basement of a friend, but I see him there. It's actually where I've been told I have to live for now, with "visits" with my mom.
- k. History of legal troubles for any members of the family?: No.
- I. Other things client wants attorney to know about home life?: No.

7. Other important relationships (Up to Flags Page)

a. Other important people in client's life: My new girlfriend is a help. Maybe I feel that way because she's 2 years older, and we've been having sex (which is fun and a thing that helps me feel accepted and cared about).

My aunt and uncle have always been good to me. I wish I could see them more—and even live with them.

8. Good things in the client's life (Up to Flags Page)

a. Regarding 12 possible important childhood assets, the client reported the following:

Consistently present:

- 1. A safe neighborhood.
- 2. Good friends. Some people might say these are "good friends" (because of their pot use, being out of school, etc.). But they've been good for me right now.

Somewhat present: Other loving and encouraging family.

Missing:

- **1.** A loving and encouraging mother.
- **2.** A loving and encouraging father.
- 3. A family that makes me feel loved.
- **4.** Parents who have stayed happily together.
- 5. Parents who treat each other well.
- 6. Peace within my family.
- **7.** A home life that always feels safe.
- 8. A financially secure home life—we have had enough money to meet our needs.
- **9.** A family that other kids would be happy to have.
- b. Other assets in client's life?: No.

9. Challenges in the client's childhood (Up to Flags Page)

- a. Family structure: None.
- b. Sexual abuse (including any sexual touching or contact): None.
- c. Attacked or physically hurt: None.
- d. Emotional or verbal mistreatment or abuse: None.
- e. Disability, serious illness, or injury: None.

f. Family members' functioning:

- 1. Alcohol abuse by my father. It's just my opinion, but I think both my parents drink too much. They certainly do insane things after drinking (fights, yelling, screaming at each other but then having sex, etc.).
- 2. Alcohol abuse by my mother.
- 3. A family member with mental problems. I think if my parents ever went to a counselor, they'd hear that they have serious mental problems. But I don't think they'd ever go.
- **4.** A family member with trouble controlling his/her anger.
- 5. A family member with another problem. I wish my parents would just decide to finish this divorce instead of living in it.

g. Feeling responsible for something bad that happened:

 Feeling that there was something bad or scary I was supposed to have fixed or stopped. My parents' fights.

h. Other issues:

 Often feeling different from other kids. I feel different when I think about my family--which I do a lot.

10. School/education (Up to Flags Page)

- a. In school now?: Yes. Well, I GUESS I'm in school because I'm being ordered back in. I don't know for sure what school it will be. I guess I will be ordered to redo most of my sophomore year.
- **b.** Likes school?: A lot (3 out of 3). My reason for skipping wasn't because of school itself. I did well, had good friends, liked sports.
- c. School attendance: Poor (0 out of 3). See what I've already written.
- d. Any serious trouble in school?: No.
- **e.** Success in school: Very good success (3 out of 3). B+ average and actually all As in the classes I liked (the AP and harder ones). Did well at three sports also.
- f. Grade average over the last 12 months: B+.
- **g. Sports, clubs, extracurriculars:** Cross country in the fall, basketball in the winter, and track in the spring—all since the 7th grade.
- h. Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or remedial classes?: No.
- i. Diagnosed with learning disability?: No.

Part C: Specific Issues

Alcohol use (Up to Flags Page)

The client denies any use of alcohol.

- b. Age of first alcohol use:
- c. Number of uses:
- d. Specific alcohol and amounts:
- e. Endorsed alcohol responses: None.
- f. Last used alcohol:

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g. Other client comments about alcohol use:

13. Drug use (Up to Flags Page)

- a. Used prescription drugs other than as properly prescribed?: No.
- b. Tried any illegal drugs?: Yes. Marijuana, a few times last year and pretty heavily in the last 4 months.
- c. Number of times: 100-150 times.
- d. Endorsed drug responses:
 - Someone has worried about my use of drugs. My uncle and aunt talked to me twice about my pot use. They were good about it and didn't try to attack me.
 - 2. I've been arrested for drug possession.
- e. Other information about drug use?: No.

14. Health (Up to Flags Page)

- a. Health overall: Good (2 out of 2).
- b. Specific health problems?: No.
- c. History of head injury?: No.
- d. History of losing consciousness?: No.
- e. Major surgeries?: No.
- f. Hospitalized?: No.
- g. Currently on medications?: No.
- h. Any other important health information?: No.

15. PTSD/Repeating bad memories or nightmares (Up to Flags Page)

- a. Bothered by bad memories/nightmares of traumatic events?: Yes.
- b. Number of traumatic events still causing symptoms: 2.
- c. Events: Seeing my dad holding my mom down and choking her. It was scary as hell, and today I'm mad at all three of us. My dad for doing it, my mom for arguing when they were mad and probably drunk, and myself for not stopping it except to yell at them.
- d. Symptoms in the last 12 months:
 - 1. Unwanted memories of the events.
 - 2. Waking up thinking about the events.
 - **3.** Trying not to think or talk about the events.
 - 4. Trying not to be around people, places, or things that remind me of the events.
 - **5.** Feeling angry a lot.
 - **6.** A lot of guilt or shame.
- e. Other PTSD information?: No.

16. Mood and functioning issues (Up to Flags Page)

- I. Past suicide attempts: No.
- II. The client's responses don't include indications of the following in the last 12 months:
 - a. Thoughts of hurting myself (0 out of 9).
 - **b.** Thoughts of hurting others (0 out of 5).
- III. Significant responses were given for the following possible mood and functioning issues in the last 12 months:

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- **a. Depression** (3 out of 3):
 - 1. A lot more sadness than other people seem to have.
 - 2. Loss of interest in things that used to interest me.
 - **3.** Feeling sad a lot.

Client's reflections on these 3 responses: When I think about my life for the last two years, sadness is a lot of what it feels like. A lot.

- b. Anxiety, worry, and nervousness (4 out of 4):
 - 1. Worrying a lot.
 - 2. Often worrying about the same one or two things.
 - 3. Trouble controlling my worrying.
 - 4. Often feeling anxious, nervous, or uneasy.

Client's reflections on these 4 responses: I just wish my parents would move on from each other.

- c. More anger than most people seem to have (1 out of 5):
 - 1. Being angry a lot.

Client's reflections on these 1 responses: I'm angry, but I think for a good reason.

d. Other mood or emotional difficulties: None.

17. Counseling (Up to Flags Page)

- a. In counseling currently?: No.
- b. On medication now?: No.
- c. Using medications currently for mental or emotional issues?: No.
- d. Prior counseling/therapy?: No.

Part D: Life Assets, Challenges, Vision, and Goals

18. Vision and goals (Up to Flags Page)

a. Things someone could do that would help the client the most: Right now? To get out of my parents' control. Maybe everything I've been "doing wrong" has been a step toward that goal.

I'd like to go to college, but I'm, not sure about what I'd study. I haven't thought about those kinds of things in a long time.

- **b.** Things the client would be helped the most by doing: Live somewhere else and, okay then, get back into some school or program.
- **c.** Some good the client can imagine coming from the current circumstances: Yes. I'd like my parents to finish their divorce and then live lives they don't have to be ashamed of.

19. Wants known in this case (Up to Flags Page)

- a. Most wants judge to know: I guess that NOTHING will run right in our family as long as my parents are in the weird and unending war they're in. I'll accept responsibility for what I've done (what choice do I have?), but are those two overgrown babies ever going to get their act together?
- **b. Favorable witnesses, contact information, and testimony:** Yes. My aunt and uncle: 6540 Oxbow Dr., Indianapolis, IN, 317-990-0110; the betterfamily9@hotmail.com.
- c. Has something else counsel should know?: No.

Notes:			

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