*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 beginning this evaluation. Please do not hesitate to phone me if you have any questions not covered here. My contacts are as follows:

Telephone _____ FAX _____ E-Mail _____

Agency & Address: _____

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

❒ Myself ❒ Prosecuting attorney ❒ Court's own motion ❒ Probation officer

❒ Parent/guardian ❒ Detention staff ❒ Arresting officers ❒ Other _____

What historical 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	_____
❒ History of learning problems	_____
❒ Client's young age	_____
❒ Other	_____

One aspect of competency is the client's understanding of the charges and possible dispositions associated with them. To help me assess this, please describe:

The charges against your client: _____

The nature of dispositions that your client might face, given these charges and your client's past record (*optional*):

_____

_____

Please describe any collateral consequences or added stressors in the client's life that I should consider when interacting with this client (e.g., social services may remove client from the family): _____

_____

(over)

*Adapted from Kruh, Sullivan, and Dunham (2001). *Respondent's Attorney Competency Questionnaire*. State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services, Child Study and Treatment Center. Adapted with permission.

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 <u>you have seen</u> 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, 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 the client's own case. Please describe the likelihood of the following demands of the client's case (circle one response).

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 client 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

In order to assess your client's ability to convey information to you that may be important for a defense, it is important for me to ask your client to describe events surrounding the alleged offense. What the client says **is not provided** in the report or in testimony. Please indicate if you have any objection to this aspect of the evaluation. If so, I will contact you to discuss this.

❒ Yes, please contact me to discuss. ❒ No, I do not object.

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