



**Confidential Defense Map for
Michael J. Peterson (Mike)**
from DefenseMap.com

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Total time: 10:49

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Questions should be submitted to Info@DefenseMap.com.

Adult case

- a. **Case Description:** A new case (no conviction, sentence, or dismissal yet).
- b. **Charges/Investigation:** Delivery and possession with intent to deliver Oxycontin, Percocet, and Dilaudid (about 200 tablets).
- c. **Date of arrest:** January 2, 2019.
- d. **Case Type:** State case.
- e. **Court/Locale:** LaPorte Superior Court; LaPorte County, Indiana, USA.
- f. **Case number:** I don't know yet.
- g. **Defense attorney:** Public defender office.
- h. **Prosecutor:** I don't know yet.
- i. **Judge:** I don't know yet.
- j. **Custody/Probation/Parole:** In custody (*Bail/Bond issue!* My bail is \$150,000 "surety," or \$15,000 cash.)/On probation (I'm on probation for Level 6 theft. My sentence is 18 months, and I have almost another year to go on my probation.)/Not on parole.

Birth/Race/Gender

- k. **Age:** 30.
- l. **Race:** White; Not Hispanic/Latino.
- m. **Gender:** Male.

Contact information

- n. **Address:** LaPorte County Criminal Annex, 200 N. Main Street, LaPorte, Indiana 46630. If released, I'd live with my parents at 6531 U.S. 35 South, LaPorte, Indiana 46630.

Flags

Important notes to client on use of this Defense Map and these 9 Flags.

- ✓ The following 9 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.

1. **Information supplied in support of pretrial release** (Note: This client's circumstances appear to include 11 pro-release factors overlooked in some risk assessment formulas. [p. 6.](#))
2. **Client's sense of personal safety** ([Section 2, p. 8](#)): The client reports feeling "Mostly unsafe."
3. **Emergency needs** ([Section 2, p. 8](#)): The client reports some emergency needs.
4. **Case descriptors from client**
 1. **How correct/fair the client considers the charges** ([Section 3, p. 8](#)): Completely correct and fair (2 out of 2).
5. **Past/other cases:**
 - **Past arrests and charges** ([Section 4, p. 8](#)): Prior record disclosed.
6. **Physical health** ([Section 7, p. 9](#)): Significant health issue disclosed.
7. **Outlook and functioning:**
 1. **PTSD/Repeating bad memories or nightmares** ([Section 12, p. 10](#)): Potential PTSD issue disclosed.
 2. **Childhood years** ([Section 13, p. 11](#)): 11 childhood assets reported as either partly or completely missing, and 18 childhood challenges disclosed. The client's responses show an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) score of 3 out of 10.
 3. **Adult years** ([Section 15, p. 14](#)): 14 of 14 important life assets either missing or partially missing.
 4. **Addictive patterns** 1 possible issue(s) disclosed.
 - a. **Use of drugs (other than alcohol)** ([Section 17, p. 14](#)): 28 significant responses, a serious indication (2 out of 2) of a possible drug issue.
 5. **Mood and functioning issues** ([Section 19, p. 16](#)): 6 possible issues disclosed.
 - a. **Suicide attempt history:** 2.
 - b. **Thoughts of hurting myself:** 9 significant responses.
 - c. **Depression:** 8 significant responses.
 - d. **Being more worried and nervous than other people.**
 - e. **Trouble with attention or staying focused.**
 - f. **Finding it hard to have close relationships.**
8. **The client reports a wish to make changes in these 7 areas of life** ([Section 22, p. 17](#)):
 1. **Relationships** (details on p. 17).
 2. **Work/work skills** (details on p. 17).
 3. **Alcohol or drug use** (details on p. 17).
 4. **Counseling** (details on p. 17).
 5. **Living arrangements** (details on p. 17).
 6. **Ways of handling problems** (details on p. 18).
 7. **Better use of a personal strength or skill** (details on p. 18).
9. **Character and mitigation evidence** ([Section 23, p. 18](#)).

Summary of Sections

Special support for pretrial release ([p. 6](#)).

Part A: Legal

1. What's most on client's mind ([p. 8](#)).
2. Client's safety/Emergency needs ([p. 8](#)).
3. Case details ([p. 8](#)).
4. Other criminal cases/arrests ([p. 8](#)).
5. Other important legal cases ([p. 9](#)).

Part B: Basic Profile

6. Military service ([p. 9](#)).
7. Physical health ([p. 9](#)).
8. Family and other important relationships ([p. 9](#)).
9. Education ([p. 10](#)).
10. Employment ([p. 10](#)).
11. Use of free time ([p. 10](#)).

Part C: Personal Challenges

12. PTSD/Repeating bad memories or nightmares ([p. 10](#)).
13. Childhood years ([p. 11](#)).
14. One or more controlling or hurtful partners ([p. 14](#)).
15. Adult years ([p. 14](#)).

Part D: Addictive Patterns

16. Use of alcohol ([p. 14](#)).
17. Use of drugs (other than alcohol) ([p. 14](#)).
18. Other abuse or addiction issues ([p. 15](#)).

Part E: Personal Functioning

19. Mood and functioning issues ([p. 16](#)).
20. Counseling history ([p. 17](#)).

Part F: Life Patterns and Character and Mitigation Evidence

21. Client today ([p. 17](#)).
22. Client's thoughts on the future ([p. 17](#)).
23. Character and mitigation evidence ([p. 18](#)).

Special support for pretrial release

NOTE: On the question of pretrial release, special attention should be paid to the information on this page and in Sections 20-22. The 11 red-starred (*) items on this page likely include special indications of this client's trustworthiness while on release that are overlooked by less-complete risk assessments in common use.

- a. **Highest completed school grade or degree:** Grade 10.
- b. **Age at first charge (juvenile or adult):** 15.
- c. **Ever charged with anything (juvenile or adult)?:** Yes.
 - i. **Times charged as a juvenile:** 3.
 - ii. **Times charged as an adult:** 4.
 - iii. **Misdemeanor convictions as an adult:** 3.
 - iv. **Felony convictions as an adult:** 1.
- * d. **Prior pretrial releases?:** Yes. 7.

Complied with duty to appear and avoid criminal acts and arrests?: Yes. I always complied with the courts and my attorney. The only error I made was this offense while on probation. I am an addict trying to live and do the best I can with some problems, and so--yes--I committed this offense while on probation. But I would like the chance--for the first time--to get treatment and make this right.
- e. **Number of times on probation or parole in either juvenile or adult cases:** 4.

Complied with all terms?: Somewhat or sometimes. I made all court appearances and cooperated with my attorney in everything. But I obviously violated my probation by returning to drug use and committing these offenses as part of that.
- * f. **Extreme hardship to client from pretrial detention?:** Yes. I am in withdrawals and would like medical care for that.
- g. **Extreme hardship to someone else from client's pretrial detention?:** No.
- * h. **Good living arrangement plan?:** Yes. I would live with my parents. They have no criminal record whatever, are responsible and even deeply religious people, and are respected in their neighborhood, friendship circles, and church.
- * i. **Strength of ties to the community:** Strong ties to this community (2 out of 2). All of my ties are to this community. I was born and raised here. All my schooling has been here. In fact, I don't have ties to any other community.
- * j. **Other responsible people in client's life?:** Yes. While my parents are responsible, law-aiding people, we still have an issue between us in that they knew about the molestation against me by my uncle and chose to cover it up. So, I know I need to develop a network of healthier people as well. Here are some.

The nurse here at the jail (Larry Brown) has always taken an interest in me, especially after my uncle was arrested for molesting other kids (which was when Nurse Brown put together what had happened to me). He has helped me reach out to many people, and almost all of them, and almost all of them (sometimes to my great surprise) have let me know if they want to help me.
- * k. **Has a current job?:** No, but I have a plan to get a job. I'm not sure I am well enough to work, but I would take any job that was offered. I worked for 6 years for Ethan and Jeanette Hawthorn of Hawthorn Reclamations, and they say they want me back as soon as possible.
- * l. **Other responsible things client will be doing on release?:** Yes. For the first time of my life, I feel like I have been given permission to tell the truth about what happened me as a child and to get help. I want to do this, including getting into the Intensive Outpatient program Nurse Brown has recommended me for at the Community Mental Health Center (CMHC). I want to be clean in my relationships--no association at all with anyone's who's used drugs in the last 90 days.
- * m. **Special immediate opportunities or circumstances:** Yes. I know that I can get my job back if I am released soon. My employer is willing to come to court to ask for that.

Sections

Part A: Legal

1. What's most on client's mind ([Up to Flags Page](#))

Well, my head is spinning. I've been locked up for 3 weeks and am still in heroin withdrawals—or at least intense cravings. I've received some medical care for the first week of withdrawal (vomiting, cramping, diarrhea, fever, racing thoughts, and anxiety).

Obviously now my life looks like a mess. I've dealt with some old problems by becoming a "drug superstar." As of now, one minute, I just want to be out. The next minute, I want a magic wand to make me well. And the next minute I want to be dead.

With or without drugs, I haven't seen a good life for myself.

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

- a. **Client's sense of personal safety:** Mostly unsafe. My health from these addictions and withdrawals is very poor. Plus, I feel very unsafe in this jail. There have been 2 rapes and many beatings already since I've been here. They are understaffed and overwhelmed, and some aggressive inmates run our cell block. My depression and thoughts of ending my life are worse for being around these circumstances.
- b. **Emergency needs?:** Yes. I do feel I need help with my withdrawals and self-destructive thoughts.

3. Case details ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **Details:** I've been an opiate addict (heroin and prescription drugs) for almost 6 years. To pay for this and not being able to work, I've done a lot of illegal things, including dealing drugs. On August 1, I got caught trying to sell about 200 tablets of Oxycontin, Percocet, and Dilaudid to someone who turned out to be working for the police.
- b. **Co-defendants?:** Yes. I would rather talk about this in person. Over the course of my drug-dealing, I bought from any people and (in recent months) sold to many people. Many of these were very good people, and I don't care to harm them.
- c. **Contributing factors:** For many years, my life has not felt worth living. But it has felt more tolerable when I have been using. And now I'm not able not to use.
- d. **How correct/fair the client considers the charges:** Completely correct and fair (2 out of 2). Well, I did these things. I wish everything was different, but I can't make it any different. I wish I could.
- e. **Initial comments on evidence and witnesses:** Not at this time.
- f. **Interaction/statements with law enforcement:** They wanted to talk with me, but I refused.
- g. **Client discussions with others about the events?:** No.
- h. **Victims?:** No.
- i. **Thoughts looking back at the events:** Well, drugs are everywhere in this town. It seems random who gets caught and charged.
- j. **Any other current charges?:** Yes. I think I'm going to be facing a probation revocation on my theft charge. That's what my Probation Officer has said to me.

4. Other criminal cases/arrests ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **Juvenile cases:** 3. Twice I was charged with marijuana use and once with alcohol use. In all 3 of the cases, I was arrested and turned over to my parents. I had court dates and charges on the last 2 (I think when I was 14 and 16). There were a lot of lectures and threats, and one time I had to spend 5 days at the JDC (Juvenile Detention Center).
- b. **Other adult cases:** 4.
Details: I had 3 shoplifting charges as misdemeanors starting about 5 years ago. To get money, I used to find receipts for people's purchases from stores (Target, Walmart, etc.), and then go to those stores, shoplift the property, and try to return the items. It usually worked, but 3 times it didn't. I always got probation, but on one I had to do some community service.

I have one felony theft from last year (in this county) for trying to steal the merchandise from a hardware delivery truck that I was able to break into one night. A friend and I got most of the stuff off the truck when police arrived. I pled to a lower level felony, got a 2-year suspended sentence and 2 years of probation. My probation officer (Mary Shafer) likes me, but she often says she doesn't know what to do with me. She's recommended drug treatment, but I haven't gotten any really.

In all these cases I was represented by the PD's office.

- c. **Any other arrests?:** No.
- d. **Other live cases?:** No.
- e. **Most shocking/difficult aspects of any (and all) arrests and detentions:** It's all been horrible. The withdrawals, the fear, the scary people you encounter.

5. **Other important legal cases** ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **Any other legal cases now?:** No.
- b. **Past legal cases?:** No.

Part B: Basic Profile

6. **Military service** ([Up to Flags Page](#))

None.

7. **Physical health** ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **Overall health:** Poor (0 out of 2). My addiction is #1 in my life. I've also acquired Hepatitis C from needles. I'm told that's serious, but I don't feel sick from that.
- b. **History of head injury?:** No.
- c. **History of losing consciousness?:** Yes. Well, it's not really "unexplained," but I've been unconscious many times from heroin, especially when it's been stronger than I thought (or laced with something). About 4 times I've been revived with Narcan, but usually I'm just out of it for a while.
- d. **Diagnosed with brain injury or disease?:** No.
- e. **Other serious physical problems or disabilities?:** No.
- f. **Major surgeries?:** No.
- g. **Currently on medications?:** Yes. I'm on some medications from the jail physician for withdrawals. I don't know the names.
- h. **Medical condition making incarceration dangerous?:** Yes. I feel I'm in dangerous withdrawals.
- i. **Other important medical information?:** No.

8. **Family and other important relationships** ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **Currently married?:** No.
Currently in a committed or long-term relationship?: No.
- b. **Married before?:** No.
- c. **Children:** 0.
- d. **Most positive and supportive people in client's life:** I guess my parents, but there is a lot of resentment between us.
- e. **Current unhealthy or hurtful relationships?:** Maybe. Well, you can't be an addict and not have some "unhealthy" relationships. I don't consider someone who supplies me a bad person. But most people would say that many of my friends who are (or were) users are not exactly healthy to be with. Two have died.
- f. **Other impactful people in client's life currently?:** No.

9. **Education** ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **Currently in school?:** No.
- b. **Extent/description of education:** I quit school early in my junior year. I wasn't into it at all.
- It seemed that when other kids were thinking about their classes or their grades, I was thinking about what happened with my uncle. For some reason, school was a place where this happened a lot. And it made me feel so different from other people (and so much worse than them).
- c. **Success in school:** Very little (0 out of 2). School didn't help me with my problems. I never saw what it could do for me. And I drove my teachers crazy. ("You have so much potential, why don't you just . . .", blah, blah, blah. Their favorite word was always "potential." We drove each other crazy, really.)

10. **Employment** ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **Employed?:** No. I'm incarcerated and unable to work. I last worked in 2019.
- b. **Prior work experience:** My last (and most significant) work was between 2013 and 2019 with Hawthorn Reclamations, a small company involved in fixing up low-cost manufactured housing for low-income families. It is owned by Ethan and Jeanette Hawthorn, two really terrific people who try to make a living while doing something great for poor people and for people like me who need a break.
- I worked hard to learn everything possible about Hawthorn. I learned construction, plumbing, mold remediation, and even some basic electrical. I advanced to being a supervisor in the restorations and an analyst when fleets of old homes were offered for sale.
- Ethan and Jeanette have stayed close friends and want to speak up for me. They can confirm everything I have said here.
- c. **Any other important information about employment or work history?:** Yes. Ethan and Jeanette would like me to go back to work for them anytime I could be released.

11. **Use of free time** ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **Currently:** Wanting, needing, getting, using, needing, and thinking about drugs.
- b. **Consequences from ways client has used free time:** It all sounds bad, of course. But I would say drugs have helped me from thinking about things that otherwise might have killed me. Meaning mostly what happened with my uncle.

But obviously, this is an overwhelmingly bad thing to control my time and thinking.

Part C: Personal Challenges

12. **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:** Over 10.
- c. **Events:** I want to say first that I've never fully opened up to anyone about this. I tried when I was 12 but was badly shut down by my parents (then and ever since). I'm not sure about talking about this in person. But here goes.

Between ages 8 and 12, I was repeatedly molested by a family member (an uncle). It scared and scarred me at the time. I used to cinch my belt as tight as I could, thinking maybe my uncle (who drank a lot during his sexual use of me) wouldn't be able to undress me.

The shame about it has never left me. Not for a minute. Only when using drugs heavily have I felt close to normal—or maybe I should say, stopped feeling so completely abnormal.

- d. **Symptoms in the last 12 months:**
1. Unwanted memories of the events. This is my life, literally. There's no thought I've had that can come close to the power of these memories.
 2. Flashbacks/reliving the events as if happening again.

3. Nightmares about the events.
 4. Waking up thinking about the events.
 5. Trying not to think or talk about the events.
 6. Trying not to be around people, places, or things that remind me of the events.
 7. Feeling depressed/losing the ability to feel joy.
 8. Lack of interest in things that I used to enjoy.
 9. Feeling hopeless about the future.
 10. Feeling angry a lot.
 11. Difficulty keeping close relationships.
 12. A lot of guilt or shame. "A lot" doesn't even come close. Even as I can see other victims of child sexual abuse as faultless, I can't seem to get around to feeling that way about myself.
 13. Trouble concentrating.
 14. Trouble sleeping.
- e. **Any connection between these experiences/PTSD and legal problems (including this case)?**: Yes. I would say there's a direct connection between what happened to me and my drug use and drug dealing. It must be hard for people to understand how abuse and memories like this haunt someone--because most people without this history just don't get it. But those people with such histories ALWAYS get it. Drugs got me numb enough that I could feel what I thought normal might feel like.
- f. **Other PTSD information?**: Yes. I guess I should say that one of the worst parts of this was that my parents opted for denial and silence when I told them about this around age 16. I started using alcohol around age 13 and added pot around (I think) age 15.

When I got in trouble for this in juvenile court, I finally told my parents what I felt was eating at me. They told me I should either have said something at the time or just forgotten about it. (I'm sure that if I'd said something when it first happened, they would have told me to shut up about it then.) To this day, they say, "It's just something you will have to deal with. Move on!"

I have used alcohol and drugs to numb and drown out memories and guilt. I've wanted to get as far away from myself as I could. But my parents always took the side of protecting my molester uncle and the family secrets instead of getting me any help (or even encouraging me to get some help).

I think it's guilt over what happened to me that leads my parents to let me live with them while I am doing such self-destructive things. But still, they will shut down any conversation about this (not that I've tried in years).

And speaking of guilt, this has been a big part of this story for me. I feel what I've privately called "filth and guilt" over this. I'm haunted that after saying nothing, my uncle was able to molest at least 4 others boys. He finally went to prison about 3 years ago.

13. Childhood years ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **Client most wants understood about childhood**: Obviously, that the molesting changed everything in my life. And I wish my parents would have protected me--or at least listened to me afterwards and gotten me some help.

Childhood assets. Regarding 17 possible important childhood assets, the client reported the following:

- **Present in client's childhood:**
 1. **A loving mother who stayed in my life.** My mom was perfect in almost every way except that one. And I think she might have gotten me help for my molestation if my dad hadn't been so totally against it.
 2. **A loving father who stayed in my life.** Again, he was present, but he was also in denial about what happened to me and what to do about it.
 3. **Parents who stayed happily together.**
 4. **Peace within my family as a whole.** Maybe too much peace. People didn't want to confront a very bad situation, so we all stayed "peacefully sick."
 5. **A family that was able to have disagreements but then peacefully settle them.**
 6. **Consistency in the admiration and encouragement I received.**
- **Somewhat present in client's childhood:**
 1. **All my basic needs.** I had food, clothing, and medical care if I needed it. But with the sex

abuse, I couldn't say I had a safe place to live.

2. **Other loving family members.** Well, clearly, my uncle was an exception to what otherwise was a nice family . And even he had many good qualities. But, he was a predator, and about 9 years ago went to prison for molesting someone else.
3. **A lot of admiration from my family and others important to me.** None of this was really expressed. But I think I sensed my parents and others wanted me to have a good life.
4. **Adults who responded to my mistakes and misbehavior with positive correction instead of punishment.** Ours was a traditional Hispanic family, so a swift hit was more common than "discussion and kind guidance." I don't know that my family would even have recognized those words.
5. **A lot of encouragement to do well in school.** This was only slightly important.
6. **Good friends almost all the time.** I never felt I fit in. But I tried to do the best I could with at least some friends.

- **Missing in client's childhood:**

1. **A consistently safe home life.** With the sex abuse between ages 8 and 12, for me this was a consistently horrible home life.
2. **A family where I could talk about things that hurt or scared me.** Definitely this was discouraged. By word and example, we were shown we should soldier on, not talk about problems, harm, fears, etc.
3. **A family that took my concerns and wishes seriously.** I had one great concern--the abuse that happened--and, no, my concerns and wishes were absolutely not taken seriously.
4. **An overall good experience with school.** My concentration was bad because my mind was often on what happened to me, why I got picked out, and what was wrong with me as a result.
5. **The feeling that I would have a good future.** Somewhere along the way (I'm sure from the abuse), I think I stopped having a sense of a future.

c. Childhood challenges:

i. Family structure during my childhood:

1. My father's death. This was technically during my childhood. I almost 18 at the time.
2. Unsafe or unhealthy people brought into our home or family life. The unsafe and unhealthy person in my life was brought there by ME. And to him, I was exposed to probably 20 or 30 other very dangerous people.

ii. Childhood sexual abuse:

1. Sexual abuse. I had an uncle who sexually abused me for over 4 years. This included masturbation, oral, and finally anal abuse. He managed to put himself into a lot of areas of my life, so I would be in his care 1-3 times a month. He must have been consumed with guilt because he did a lot of drinking when he had me and would anally or orally rape me. That's all I want to say about that here. It's more than I've told almost anyone.
2. Sex or sexual touching I didn't want.
3. Sex or sexual touching with someone a lot older than I was.
4. Something sexual I was too young to really agree to.
5. Sex or sexual touching I now wish hadn't happened.
6. Tricked into sex or sexual touching.

iii. Childhood emotional or verbal mistreatment or abuse:

1. Any other emotional abuse by a family member. At least looking back, I think it was emotional abuse for my parents to tell me to just forget what happened to me, that I was wrong for bringing it up too late, and that this was (as far as they were concerned) "over." I especially hated when one of them would refer to "what you and your uncle did."

iv. Functioning of the family during my childhood:

1. Repeated conflict or loud arguments between people I lived with.
2. Scary behavior by someone in my family. I was terrified of my uncle. When it was time for me to spend time at his house, I would cinch my belt as tight as I could, thinking that would protect me. He made threats to keep me from saying anything ("No one will believe you," "They will know it was your fault," etc.), all of which made him scarier to me.

v. As a child, feeling responsible for something bad that happened:

1. Feeling that an accident, death, or other sad or scary event was my fault. I always

blamed myself for what my uncle did to me. In my mind, there must have been something about me that caused this. Or that caused him to choose me.

2. Feeling that I was supposed to stop or fix some problem in my family. I always thought I should have fixed this, but I couldn't figure out how.

vi. Other childhood issues:

1. Encouraged by someone to be violent to others.
2. Committing crimes. These were petty things (drinking, doing weed, shoplifting, and skipping school). Of course, these activities did take away time that was supposed to be about growing up.
3. Alcohol use. I liked how this took the edge off my thoughts of the sexual abuse. But I probably didn't do any more drinking than most of the guys in my class.
4. Drug use. Again, as a child the weed helped to take the edge off my worries and self-doubts.
5. Worries about my sexuality or others' acceptance of my sexuality. I doubted my sexuality just because I was used sexually by a man.

- d. Relationship with father (while growing up):** Fair (1 out of 2). On the surface, we got along. But he was withdrawn, and I never felt I could share much with him. I thought he wouldn't do anything about the sex abuse. It was a blow to me that when I finally opened up to him, my doubts turned out to be right.

Relationship with father (today): Fair (1 out of 2). He lets me stay at their house. But, I have a lot of anger and resentment over his not protecting me and (even more) over his being no help in my dealing with the sexual abuse. Even today. He makes me feel there's something wrong with me that I don't, "JUST MOVE ON!"

- e. Relationship with mother (while growing up):** Fair (1 out of 2). I would say my relationship with my mom had the same problems as my relationship with my dad. Maybe she would have stood up to help me, but she follows my dad's lead.

Relationship with mother (today): Fair (1 out of 2). I don't say anything to her, but I'd say I quietly hold my mom responsible for choosing family peace over what happened to me and getting me some help when she found out.

- f. Raised at any time by anyone other than mother or father?:** No.

- g. Any other serious difficulties in childhood?:** No.

- h. ACE (Adverse Childhood Experience) Score:** 3 out of 10. The client answered Yes to the following standardized questions.

1. Did a parent or other adult often either: Swear at you, insult you, put you down, or humiliate you? OR act in a way that made you afraid you might be physically hurt?
2. Did an adult or someone at least 5 years older than you ever either: Touch or fondle you or have you touch their body in a sexual way? OR have (or try to have) oral, anal, or vaginal sex with you?
3. Did you often feel either: That no one in your family loved you or thought you were important or special? OR that your family didn't look out for each other, feel close to each other, or support each other?

Note: The ACE Questionnaire is credited with establishing the strong link between traumas in childhood and chronic disease and life difficulties in adulthood. The higher the ACE score, the greater incidence of a broad range of adult challenges. See [History and Significance of ACE Questionnaire](#).

- i. Any connection between childhood problems and legal problems (including this case)?:** Yes. I hope I've been clear enough about this. we can talk about it if need be. But, yes, of course.

Notes:

14. One or more controlling or hurtful partners ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **Any current involvement with a controlling or hurtful partner?:** No.
- b. **Past controlling/hurtful relationships?:** No.

15. Adult years ([Up to Flags Page](#))

a. **Current life assets. Among 14 possible important life assets, the client reported the following:**

- **Definitely present today:** 0.
- **Somewhat present today:**
 - 1. Safety in all parts of my life. I guess I'm physically safe at the moment. But there's nothing safe about the way I live.
 - 2. A loving and helpful family life.
 - 3. A safe place to live--without fear of losing it. Well, I'm in jail, and this isn't a 100% safe place. But if I can get released, my parents certainly would let me live at home again.
 - 4. Good feelings and trust for police and other authorities. Being an addict, it's hard to trust police, probation staff, etc. when it's their job to arrest you for things you can't control. But, many of them (like my probation officer) are really good people and actually probably want the best for me.
- **Missing today:**
 - 1. Good physical health. I'm an addict. My veins are mostly collapsed. I have sores over most of my body. I have Hep-C. I feel bad almost always, and I crave drugs.
 - 2. Good peace of mind/freedom from worry most of the time.
 - 3. A lot of joy/happiness.
 - 4. At least 3 good and helpful friends I can call on anytime.
 - 5. Work I like.
 - 6. Volunteer work I like.
 - 7. A lot of purpose in my life/a feeling that my life matters to others.
 - 8. A good balance between work, rest, and play.
 - 9. Enough money/financial security.
 - 10. A spiritual life I'm happy with.

- b. **Client describes his/her problems in adult life:** I guess my problems go back to drugs, and they go back to old problems in my life. Together, they've affected everything.

Part D: Addictive Patterns

16. Use of alcohol ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **Significant responses regarding use of alcohol:** None.
- b. **Last used alcohol:** About 6 months ago.
- c. **Any connection between alcohol and legal problems (including this case)?:** No.
- d. **Client's belief about having a problem with alcohol:** No.

17. Use of drugs (other than alcohol) ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **Significant drug responses:**
 - 1. I've used some illegal drugs.
 - 2. I've sometimes not been able to stop using drugs.
 - 3. I've lied to get drugs.
 - 4. I've done something illegal to get drugs.
 - 5. I've had withdrawal symptoms or felt sick after using drugs.
 - 6. Drug use has caused a problem in some area of my life.
 - 7. I've sometimes felt bad or guilty about my drug use.
 - 8. A friend or family member has worried or complained to me about my use of drugs.

9. I've used some prescription drugs illegally. Abusing prescription drugs (just like with heroin) has hurt me but also helped me to cope and escape. I know that sounds hard to believe, but it's 100% true.
10. I've used some prescription drugs other than as directed by a qualified doctor.
11. I've used some prescription drugs to get high.
12. I've used some prescription drugs to avoid getting sick from withdrawals.
13. I've gotten prescription drugs by lying to a doctor.
14. I've gotten prescription drugs by using a doctor who gave them out carelessly or irresponsibly.
15. I've gotten prescription drugs from a dealer or someone else not legally allowed to give them.
16. I've gotten prescription drugs by a fake, forged, or false prescription.
17. I've used someone else's prescription drugs.
18. I've used prescription drugs when I was not able to stop using them.
19. I've sometimes neglected family or friends because of my drug use.
20. I've used more than one drug at a time.
21. I've been arrested for drug possession.
22. I've been arrested for some other involvement with drugs other than just possession.
23. I've used drugs while alone.
24. I've used drugs and alcohol at the same time.
25. I've had "blackouts" or "flashbacks" as a result of drug use.
26. I've had medical problems because of drug use.
27. I've failed a drug test.
28. I plan to use help to stay sober (N.A., other recovery fellowship, treatment, or something else). Let's say I sometimes hope this can be a life for me--and that I know I'd need help to be sober and happy.

b. Particular drugs used:

1. Heroin (about 350 times in the last 12 months).
2. Marijuana/pot (about 12 times in the last 12 months).
3. Cocaine (powder) (0 times in the last 12 months).
4. Hallucinogens (0 times in the last 12 months).
5. Misused, or improperly used, prescription drugs ((Oxycontin. Since heroin became my drug I've been addicted to, this hasn't been as common. But if heroin has been hard to get, I've sometimes tried to return to Oxycontin.)) (about 30 times in the last 12 months).

c. Reflections on drug use: I need to think more about this.

d. Client's belief about having a problem with drugs: Yes. I use heroin every day I can. I've had 2 friends die from doing the same. I use many other drugs. I'm in jail and looking at prison. That certainly seems like a drug problem, even though I sometimes say it isn't.

At the same time, I haven't known what else to do with how much I hurt--and hate my life, if not myself. I read an account once that the addict uses drugs to try to heal himself. In many ways, that seems true with me, though I've not known what to do about it.

I guess the last thing I'd say is that I've felt so ashamed when I've heard about other families where addicts were encouraged to get help. I have heard nothing but the opposite. And that always felt like something deeply wrong with me.

e. Any connection between drugs and legal problems (including this case)?: Yes. Obviously. See what I've written. I'm now ready to talk about any of these things.

18. Other abuse or addiction issues ([Up to Flags Page](#))

a. Other addictive patterns or harmful habits?: No.

Notes:

Part E: Personal Functioning

19. Mood and functioning issues ([Up to Flags Page](#))

I. **Past suicide attempts:** Yes.

- **Times:** 2.
- **What happened?:** The first time was when I was 20. Technical school hadn't worked out, and I couldn't stop thinking about what had happened to me sexually as a child. A girl had broken up with me, and someone had made a stupid comment about my manhood. I lost it and took all the pills in 4 bottles my girlfriend and I had.

The second time was about 3 years ago when I intentionally overdosed. This was one of the times I was revived with Narcan. This was over the complete mess my life had become.

On other occasions, I think I've been intentionally careless, half hoping an overdose would end my life. I either didn't take enough or (on 2 more occasions) I was revived with Narcan.

II. **The client's responses don't include indications of the following in the last 12 months:**

- a. **Thoughts of hurting others** (0 out of 8).
- b. **More anger than most people seem to have** (0 out of 9).
- c. **Dependence/Codependence** (0 out of 13).

III. **Significant responses were given for the following possible mood and functioning issues in the last 12 months:**

a. **Thoughts of hurting myself** (9 out of 9):

1. Thinking about suicide.
2. Sometimes wishing not to be alive.
3. Thinking of how to commit suicide.
4. Thinking of when or where to commit suicide.
5. Making some plans on how to commit suicide.
6. Taking one or more steps on a plan to commit suicide.
7. Wondering if others would be better off without me.
8. Feelings of not being important or useful to others.
9. Doing really dangerous or risky things that could have led to my being killed or seriously hurt.

Client's reflections on these 9 responses: There are times my life has worked with drugs. But in recent times, it's been all bad, and getting out has seemed like the best plan.

b. **Depression** (8 out of 13):

1. Feelings of doom or hopelessness.
2. Loss of interest in things that used to interest me.
3. Thinking about death more than usual.
4. Painful feelings of guilt.
5. Painful feelings of being worthless.
6. A lot more trouble getting to sleep.
7. A lot of trouble staying asleep.
8. Problems concentrating or being easily distracted.

Client's reflections on these 8 responses: You can look at what I've already written. I don't know what else to say.

c. **Other mood or functioning issue:**

1. **Being more worried and nervous than other people.** It feels like there are so many things tearing at me. Certainly the memories of the sex abuse, and my parents' unwillingness to help me deal with it years later. But also it feels like my life has had no avenue to getting better (only, with the help of drugs, sometimes less painful).
2. **Trouble with attention or staying focused.** I think this is just that my mind seems to get hijacked by thoughts of my problem and what's happened.
3. **Finding it hard to have close relationships.** I just want to avoid people, it seems. So

many things they can bring up remind me of what I can't stand about my life and my past. Even to hear people talk about their families and jobs leaves me feeling sick. One good thing about being with addicts, they're mostly just about the drugs.

20. Counseling history ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **In counseling currently?:** No.
- b. **Using medications currently for mental or emotional issues?:** Yes. I'm getting meds for some of my withdrawal problems.
- c. **Used medications in past for mental or emotional issues?:** Yes. This was a long time ago. Doctors tried some Paxil, Wellbutrin, and Prozac. I don't think they helped.
- d. **Prior counseling/therapy?:** No.
- e. **Participation in recovery or survivor groups?:** No.

Part F: Life Patterns and Character and Mitigation Evidence

21. Client today ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **Some good things in client's life today:** As of a month ago, I'd have to say I couldn't think of any. But with Nurse Larry Brown's help to me directly, in his promise to stay with me as I get into counseling and onto a road of recovery, AND in helping to assemble this group of people who are supporting me, this feels like real hope in my life. The first I've had since being molested.
- b. **Hard/challenging things in client's life today:** It's hard when I think how much better my life could have turned out. It may be more "impossible" than "a dream." But, it'd really be something to be able to use my talents in advancing the work of the Hawthorns--and work like that.
- c. **Spiritual or religious aspects of client's life:** None. Except that I feel an surprising level of hope when I think about what Nurse Larry Brown has been holding out for me.
- d. **Other things client would like attorney to know:** I can't think of anything else right now. But I confess that filling out this Map has been exhausting, and I may have something more later.

22. Client's thoughts on the future ([Up to Flags Page](#))

a. **Wish for changes in the following areas:**

- 1. **Relationships.** It's nice to think about having good sober people in my life. I think getting off drugs would have to come first--if I could have the chance at some treatment. Nurse Larry Brown and my Probation Officer (Mary Shafer, 219-295-0054) like me a lot, and I think I'd go to them first for some advice about what to do. But I would be glad to be seen by anyone who could evaluate me for treatment.

But yes, restricting relationships to entirely sober people is completely necessary.

- 2. **Work/work skills.** I'd love to go back to work for the Hawthorns.
- 3. **Alcohol or drug use.** Obviously. I would like, for the first time in my life, to get help with my drug abuse and the ways I have used drugs to deal with the sexual abuse I experienced as a child and the guilt I have felt over it and not speaking up earlier.

These new, very serious charges are a strange and "Less than perfect" way for me to step up for this help (and to put aside my parents' insistence that I "just forget what happened"), but I would like to GO INTO INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT TREATMENT TODAY. I would definitely do so if I could be given the chance. Again, I think Nurse Larry Brown and my Probation Officer would be the first people I'd talk to about this. I'd even be happy if my attorney could speak with them.

- 4. **Counseling.** I certainly think it's time for me to address the abuse that happened to me, even if my family didn't get me help before.
- 5. **Living arrangements.** Well, I'd obviously like to be out of jail and back home. But once home, I think it'd also be good if my parents could be helped to understand what the sexual abuse did to me. Their refusal to see this is the elephant in our home.

- 6. **Ways of handling problems.** Clearly I'd like to put the sexual abuse out of my mind. But I need help with that. All these years of being told not to talk about it (even when my abuser went to prison for later molesting others) have not been the answer. Nor has using drugs to try to live a life.
- 7. **Better use of a personal strength or skill.** Maybe my work talent. But that seems so long gone by now. I bet if I could speak with Ethan about the idea, he would encourage everything about it.
- b. **Client goals:** I have goals today of sobriety, better relationships, counseling to finally deal with what has happened to me. I know that must sound large and vague. But it's the truth. For more details fo this, I think I'd like to think about this some more and listen closely to any counseling I can get. And I will.
- c. **Specific things client thinks a judge would like to see 4 months from now:** Drug recovery. Direction. Better (healthier) people to be with. And I'd like to come through on all of these.
- d. **Something good the client can imagine coming from current challenges:** Well, yeah, but it'd be a miracle of sorts. But, yeah, definitely.

23. Character and mitigation evidence ([Up to Flags Page](#))

- a. **Best accomplishments:** I think my work with the Hawthorns--when I was doing it. A couple people who know what I've been through in the abuse and such (there aren't that many) have said it's to my credit I'm even alive. Oddly enough, this includes my probation officer. That's not exactly how I look at things, but some caring people have said that.
- b. **Personal strengths:** My work accomplishments with the Hawthorns probably come partly from a natural talent for those things, the generous instruction I've gotten, and a wish to make some things in the world better. As for being alive, I'm not exactly sure why I'm still alive--except I sometimes hope I can put all this pain to good use, to make someone else's life go better.
- c. **People client is currently helping (or who currently rely on client):** Today, I don't help anyone. It makes me very sad to say.
- d. **Other people client has helped:** It's embarrassing--and maybe because my life got off track so early--but I haven't helped as many people as I would have liked. I need to think more about this.
- e. **Client's Index of Supporters:**

1. Nurse Larry Brown:

- a. **Relation to client:** I have known Nurse Brown from several of my arrests when he has looked out for inmates' wellbeing.
- b. **Trustworthiness:** Nurse Brown is "solid like a rock." He's respected by staff and inmates alike. I think he's worked in the jail for over 15 years.
- c. **Contact information:** They don't let us have contact information for any staff. But he can be reached at the regular number for the jail. (He's told me I can contact him there as well whenever I think I need him.)
- d. **Specific help:** He has already encouraged me in all the ways that make perfect sense (sobriety, treatment, clean relationships, and counseling). I think he'd speak well of me, though I wouldn't even want to ask until I prove myself with some real results.

2. Mary Shafer.:

- a. **Relation to client:** My probation officer I've had on and off for quite a long time.
- b. **Trustworthiness:** Again, she's "solid as a rock." She has a reputation for being tough but really wanting her clients to succeed. And she's often said she believes I can make it.
- c. **Contact information:** I forget her number, but it's at the local Probation Office.
- d. **Specific help:** I know she'll go on encouraging me. But especially if I can get some successes under my belt in recovery, etc., I know she'd speak well of me, too.

3. Ethan and Jeanette Hawthorn.:

- a. **Relation to client:** As I wrote before, he was my employer for a total of almost 6 years.
- b. **Trustworthiness:** He's an amazingly respected businessman and community leader. He has a beautiful family and a beautiful life.
- c. **Contact information:** 812-900-7399; Ethan@HawthornReclamations.net.
- d. **Specific help:** He will let me work for him. He would speak up about what he has always said (to me and others) was "almost limitless" potential on my part.

f. **Other information judge/jury should know?:** No.

New thoughts

Any new thoughts as a result of using this Defense Map?: Yes. It's been an interesting review of a very long and sad story, I'll say that. I want to think about this some more. But that's about all I can think to say about this now. Except this has me thinking I really do want a better life, and I am willing to work hard for it. I know a lot of people in jail say they want to make changes, but this life review really has me focused on that in a new way.

Final information/thoughts client wishes to share: I think I've said everything. But filling this out has truly been draining, and I hope I'll be given tablet access to say more. I'm anxious to see what my "Map" says.

Notes:

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