

OFFICE OF THE STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER

RANDI HOOD CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER

INITIAL CLIENT INTERVIEW FORM (Adult Criminal)

PART I: Preparation for Interview of Adult Client

Have you?	
Set aside enough time to conduct a thorough interview	
Obtained and carefully reviewed:	
☐ Information, Affidavit, and other court documents?	
Police reports or other probable cause documents?	
Familiarized yourself with the basic facts and persons involved?	
The statutory elements of the offense charged?	
When you conduct the interview do you have with you?	
<u> </u>	
All relevant discovery	
☐ Form OPD-MH1 (ROI)	
☐ Titles 45 (Montana Criminal Code), and Title 46, M.C.A. (Montana Criminal Procedure)	
Give the client your business card with telephone number	

PART II: Conducting the initial interview

Name (please print)	
Phone Attorney	
☐ I. Arrest Information	
☐ a. Date of arrest	
☐ b. Location of arrest	
☐ c. Others Involved	
☐ d. Taken to jail? Y/N If so, where	
 □ e .with or without warrant; □ f. whether client was searched and if anything was seized, with or without warrant or consent; □ g. whether client was interrogated and, if so, whether a statement given; □ h. client's physical and mental status at the time any statement was given; □ i. whether any exemplars were provided and whether any scientific tests were performed on client's body or bodily fluids; 	:
☐ II. Co-Defendants	
a. The names and custodial status of all co-defendants and;	
b. the name of counsel for co-defendants; if counsel has been appointed or retained	
☐ III. Witnesses ☐ a. The names and locating information of any witnesses to the crime and/or the arrest, regardless of whether these are witnesses for the prosecution or for the defense ☐ b. the existence of any tangible evidence in the possession of the State, which counsel should take steps to insure is p	reserved
☐ IV. The client's physical and mental health, educational, vocational and armed services history	
a. currently under the care of a physician	
 □ b. currently under the care of a mental health provider □ 1. past care by a mental health provider □ 2. past care by an inpatient mental health facility □ c. armed services history □ 1. when and for how long □ 2. where stationed □ 3. discharge information 	
d. educational background	
e. vocational / work history	
☐ V. The client's immediate medical needs	
a. is there a there a need for medication	
☐ b. detoxification programs and/or substance abuse treatment	

LI VI. The client's past criminal record
a. arrests and convictions for adult offenses
☐ b. arrests and convictions for juvenile offenses
c. prior record of court appearances or failure to appear in court
d. Does the client have any pending charges or outstanding warrants from other jurisdictions or agencies
e. Is the client on probation or parole? Client's past / present performance under supervision.
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☐ VII. Collateral Contacts
a. The names of individuals or other sources that counsel can contact to verify the information provided by the client;
☐ b. counsel should obtain the permission of the client before contacting these individuals-use the OPD-MH1 form
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☐ VIII. Competence
a. Where appropriate, evidence of the client's competence to stand trial and/or
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 □ a. Where appropriate, evidence of the client's competence to stand trial and/or □ b. mental state at the time of the offense □ c. obtain releases from the client for any records of treatment or testing for mental health or developmental disability
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□ a. Where appropriate, evidence of the client's competence to stand trial and/or □ b. mental state at the time of the offense □ c. obtain releases from the client for any records of treatment or testing for mental health or developmental disability □ IX. Citizenship status □ a. Client is a United States Citizen

PART III: Additional concerns and questions re: BAIL

a. What is the ability of the client to meet any financial conditions of release	
□ b. □ Criminal History	
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C. prior record of court appearances or failure to appear in court	
d. Does the client have any pending charges or outstanding warrants from other juris e. Is client on probation or parole and the	dictions or agencies
1. client's past or present performance under supervision	
2. Probation Officer?	
Client's residence and length of time in the community;	
Mental and physical health and employment background	
Identify any individuals who might be able to assist with bail or placement	
Obtain other useful social information, including the names of witnesses who can prov	ide testimony regarding the
client's ability to stay out of trouble if released	
Form: OPD-InitialClientIntakeAdultCr1	Revised 03/01/2007