



TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

In response to your inquiry regarding a three-party petition for alcohol commitment, Wisconsin Statutes require three adults who have first-hand knowledge of a person's need for treatment to provide information to the Court. We are asking you to provide this information in writing. Those providing information also must be willing to testify in court if necessary.

Listed on the other side of this letter is the criteria needed for an alcohol commitment. At least one criterion must be met in order to initiate an involuntary commitment. The information should be specific and recent, including dates.

Please make sure the name of the person you are writing about is at the beginning of the letter. **Your** name, address, telephone number, and signature are also needed on the letter.

Once the letters are completed, please contact our office at 715-726-7788. We need to confirm the letter writers' names, etc. in order to prepare further documents. We will then schedule an appointment for the letter writers to bring in their letters. Mental health staff will consult with Chippewa County's Corporation Counsel to determine the appropriateness for involuntary commitment. Corporation Counsel will make the final determination if grounds have been met to pursue a commitment order. If there are grounds to pursue a commitment, all letter writers must come to the office in order to sign a petition and affidavit. It is preferable that the signatures be collected on the same day.

Please address your letters to:

Chippewa County Recovery & Wellness Consortium
Chippewa County Courthouse
711 N Bridge Street, Room 118
Chippewa Falls WI 54729

Sincerely,

Recovery & Wellness Consortium

CRITERIA FOR INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT OF ALCOHOLIC

Wisconsin Statutes 51.45 (13) (a) & (g)

To initiate a three-party alcohol petition for commitment, three (3) letters are needed. The information contained in the letters need to be within a one-year period.

Although we realize this can be a very emotional issue, the courts are looking for factual information to form the basis for an involuntary commitment. It is imperative that letter writers specifically list the dates and facts of the incidents you personally witnessed.

There are four criteria listed below that need to be addressed in the letters:

- 1) By clear and convincing evidence, the person habitually lacks self-control as to the use of alcoholic beverages (i.e. frequency of use, quantity consumed).
- 2) By clear and convincing evidence, the person uses alcoholic beverages to the extent their health is impaired to endangered (i.e. elevated liver, kidney damage, alcohol in blood, delirium tremors).
- 3) By clear and convincing evidence the person uses alcoholic beverages to the extent their social or economic functioning is disrupted (i.e. family issues, employment problems, financial difficulties).
- 4) By clear and convincing evidence the person's pattern of conduct is dangerous to themselves or others (i.e. driving while intoxicated, physical altercations, falling, not eating, blackouts).