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Vocational Evaluation Disclosure Statement

You have been referred to us to receive a vocational evaluation. The purpose of this evaluation is to assess your ability to work. I will be providing an opinion regarding appropriate alternate employment, your earning capacity, return to work barriers, and recommendations to overcome such, if possible.

My Role and Responsibilities

I have been retained to provide an opinion only, and I have not been retained to provide any services that I might recommend to expedite your return to work. I may be asked to testify in a legal proceeding regarding information obtained during your assessment and my opinions regarding your employability, earning capacity, and recommendations for dealing with any identified employment barriers. I may be asked to write a report about my findings and opinions. I may need to communicate with attorneys, medical professionals or other sources of information to develop information and form conclusions. Services may include vocational interviews, testing and interpretation when appropriate, collection of relevant data, labor market research, reporting, testifying, and communicating with the parties and attorneys or other information sources needed to form a professional opinion.

Your Role and Responsibilities

Your role is to provide accurate information in response to my questions. If you do not understand the reason for a particular question that I may ask, you have the right to request an explanation before responding. You may be asked to follow through with assignments. If you do not understand or do not wish to perform the assignments, you should let me know.

Benefits to You

A benefit to you of undergoing this process is that I will provide an objective and unbiased opinion regarding your vocational options, employability, earning capacity, and barriers to employment. You will be able to ask questions, and I will do my best to answer them for you. You may find the vocational recommendations helpful.

Lack of Confidentiality

This evaluation is taking place within the context of a legal action. It is important that you understand that any information that I receive from you or other sources during the course of this evaluation and formulation of my opinion is not confidential and could be shared in my report or in a legal proceeding. I may involve other professionals to assist me with various aspects of developing my opinion. Discussions regarding your case may be held with such individuals. Depending upon the referral source, I may or may not be providing a written report. Your attorney may be provided with a copy of my report if one is issued. The normal confidentiality considerations of a client-counselor relationship do not apply in this context.

Records and Electronic Communication

Dr. Luis Mas will keep the case file for the duration of the case, or for two years following the conclusion of the legal matter if this date is known. Some information may be conveyed electronically. Reasonable efforts to ensure that electronically conveyed information via fax or email is available only to the appropriate addressees will be made. Some risk may be associated with electronic communication. Records will be released only to referring parties, those authorized by referring parties, and in response to a subpoena.

Besides the above-noted limits on confidentiality, these additional situations may require that I divulge information concerning you:

- If I believe that you are going to harm or endanger yourself or others, I am required to notify the endangered individual(s), the proper authorities and/or officials.
- If I believe you are going to harm or endanger or abuse children or the elderly, must report this to state or local authorities.
- Requests for information from other parties (i.e., doctors, physical therapists, your employer, etc.) involved in your case may occur. If so, you will be asked to sign a release of information form so your records can be released. That signature is voluntary.
- If a properly issued subpoena is received in the contest of a lawsuit or other legal proceeding, then information in your file may be released.
- If you are a minor or *not* your own legal guardian, then the information in your file may be available to your legal guardian or advocate.