## Consent to assessment procedures and policies

## Dr. Thomas M. Brunner

- -I was promptly informed by Dr. Brunner's office that there would be a base charge retainer fee collected at the beginning of the first meeting. I understand payment of this fee, and any other fees, is not contingent upon the diagnosis or absence of any diagnoses or conditions, or recommendations regarding, any particular condition.
- -I understand I must pay a base rate retainer fee up front which is only a base charge. I understand the assessor has explained the fee may be higher depending on unforeseeable factors resulting in more time taken to complete the assessment. I have been given a sheet offering examples (See attached sheet) of why the fee might be higher and have asked any questions I have about this before signing this form.
- -I understand I am personally responsible for all fees related to the assessment process, regardless of whether I have insurance or not. That is, I understand I must directly pay the assessor all assessment fees. I understand Dr. Brunner is working on the assumption that insurance is not willing to pay for this service.
- -I understand the assessor has an hourly fee. I understand that <u>any professional activities</u> (correspondence with teachers, review of records, and consultation with colleagues) are billable activities, whether they are face-to-face time or involving research, extended phone calls, etc. See example below:

Activity	Time	Charge
Review of records	60 minutes	
Corresponding with teacher/physician	30 minutes	
Scoring/interpreting a measure	15 minutes	

- -I understand there is a 25.00 fee for bounced checks, and any unpaid fees will be turned over to a collection agency. If this account is assigned an attorney for collection/suit, the prevailing party shall be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees for cost of collection and all costs of collection. I authorize an interest charge of 24% APR will be levied on the account when the balance is over \$300.00 or when any balance remains on the account over thirty days.
- -I understand I will not receive a copy of the report until the final fee is paid in full and the results have been reviewed during a feedback meeting. I understand the necessity of having a feedback meeting where the results contained in the report are reviewed before I am given a copy of the report. I understand this is a standard of practice for psychologists.
- -Any of the following fees relating to legal proceedings must be paid to Dr. Brunner at least 24 hours in advance (by certified check or cash) to avoid costly misunderstandings.
- -If this assessor is asked to sit through a deposition, he will be paid no less than \$250.00 (regardless of time of the deposition) for expenses involved in preparing if time with lawyers is 30 minutes or less. If time exceeds this amount, then minimum fee is \$500.00 (which can pay for up to 2 hours of the assessor's time). If assessor must sit through more than 2 hours of deposition time, then he will be paid according to a prorated legal fee of 250.00 per hour based on the amount of time the lawyer scheduled.
- -If assessor must testify or appear in court, then he will be paid no less than \$1500.00, and this amount must be paid before the assessor attends any court proceeding. This fee will not be withheld until the outcome of the case and is not contingent on the final court decision.

## Overview of report components and examples of extra charges

- -The base charge is based on the following standard set of components that are a standard of practice for well-trained clinical psychologists who are specialists in assessment:
- I initial intake interview (includes questionnaires, developmental history) of family or patient
- II intelligence, achievement, cognitive processing, and social-emotional assessment
- III questionnaires filled out collateral persons (if necessary and/or possible)
- IV interview of one professional who works with the patient (e.g., teacher)
- V if patient is minor, direct interview and/or some highly interactive activity with child/adolescent
- -Every case is unique, and often your desire for a comprehensive assessment cannot be satisfied until additional professional activities are performed. Please review the below information to educate yourself on typical reasons for additional fees.

## Why are unexpected factors that add to the estimated time invested to provide a tailored understanding of your child?

- -Time spent during intake or during review of submitted records (e.g., for developmentally delayed children or people with significant psychological histories)
- -Extended testing time due to young age of child or slower processing time of patient
- -Additional tests being used to help answer your referral questions. Example: adaptive testing for delayed children to help you determine their specific levels of development.
- -Extended time talking with the specified school contact or the need to talk with more than one school staff member
- -The need for additional procedures like an on-site school observation or an observation of play
- -Extended time for diagnostic interviewing/rule outs
- -For highly specialized issues, need for consultation with fellow specialists and/or other healthcare providers

**Final Note**: Dr. Brunner makes every effort to keep any extra billable time minimal by having you bring summaries from other professionals so he does not need to spend substantial billable time during the assessment process. Please be sure to refer back to his checklist to help him keep your extra costs low.

I have read, asked any questions about, and understand the "Consent to assessment procedures and policies" and				
"Overview of report components and examples of extra charges" sections.				
Date:	Date:			
Responsible party	Witness			