

Release for the Submission of Offender Data for Research

IMPORTANT NOTE: The DVOMB approved the following revisions to Section 5.05 and 11.07 of the Standards which will go into effect on July 31st, 2019.

Standard Revisions

5.05, II, A. Responsibilities of Offender - The Offender Contract shall include the following agreements by the offender:

4. To sign releases of information allowing the Approved Provider to share information as required by Standard 11.07.

11.07 Release of Information: When enrolling a client in treatment, a provider shall obtain certain signed releases of confidentiality based on the informed consent of the client. The information shall be provided in a manner that is easily understood, verbally and in writing, in the native language of the person, or through other modes of communication as may be necessary to enhance understanding. A provider shall obtain the following releases, which should each be completed as a separate document with its own signature from the client:

- A. **Required Treatment Release:** This release shall explain that written and verbal information will be shared between the following individuals: victim(s) of record, all members of the MTT and shall, if applicable, extend to the Department of Human Services, or other individuals or agencies responsible for the supervision of the client. Other releases of confidentiality may include the offender's former partner(s), current and/or past therapist or Approved Provider, and where warranted, any guardian ad litem, or other professionals working on behalf of the adult and child victims of the offender. The provider shall document any exceptions to this Standard.
- B. **Required Adjunct Treatment or Intervention Release:** For clients recommended and planned to undergo a required adjunct treatment or intervention to address a co-occurring issue as a second contact in addition to domestic violence offender treatment, this release shall comply with all state and federal regulations.
- C. **Required Substance Use Disorder Treatment Release:** For clients undergoing substance use disorder treatment co-occurring with sex offender treatment, this release shall comply with the provisions of 42 C.F.R. § 2.31.
- D. **Research Release:** A provider shall present this release for voluntary informed consent by the client. The client may agree to a release of confidentiality for information to be shared with the Board for the purpose of research related to the evaluation or implementation of the Standards and Guidelines for domestic violence offender management in Colorado, in compliance with 45 CFR § 164.508.

Discussion Point: The research release is voluntary and should be presented for the client's review and determination for voluntary informed consent. All other releases are required for domestic violence offender treatment.