

SOARING 2 – Behavioral Offense Chain



Fill in this **Behavioral Offense Chain** with your client, focusing on their thoughts, feelings, and actions prior to, during, and after engaging in criminal activity.

Client Name: _____

Date: _____

Life Situation at Time of Crime

Positive Emotion

Negative Emotion

Coping with Emotion

How was Crime Planned or Unplanned?

How Did You Justify What You Were Doing & Going to Do?

Offense

How Did You Justify Why You Did It?



SOARING 2 – Behavioral Offense Chain – Guide



This page is a guide to using the **Behavioral Offense Chain** with your offender client. The main goal of this worksheet is to create an opportunity for you & the offender to discuss the behaviors, thinking patterns, and emotions that typically occur as part of his/her criminal activity.

By understanding these patterns, and helping the offender acknowledge these patterns, you can work together to find new ways of responding to similar situations. When they find themselves doing the same activities, or feeling the same way, or thinking the same thoughts that initially led them to crime, they can recognize & counteract their risk for returning to crime.

You can use the questions on this sheet to assist your conversation about the offense chain with your offender client.

Life Situation at Time of Crime

Tell me what was going on in your life at the time of the crime.
Who was in your life and what were you doing?
What were you preoccupied with the most at that time?
Where were you living?
Tell me what a typical day looked like during this time.
What were your biggest concerns at this time?

Positive Emotion

What was making you happy during this time?
What did you feel was going well in your life, and what did that feel like?
What parts of your life felt good at the time?
What was the main positive emotion you would feel at this point in your life? What caused you to feel that way?

Negative Emotion

What would upset you during this time?
What did you feel was going poorly in your life, and what did that feel like?
What was the main negative emotion you would feel at this point in your life? What caused you to feel this way?

Coping with Emotion

How did you respond to these situations & feelings?
Were you interested in making the positive feelings last longer? How did you go about making this happen?
Were you interested in making the negative feelings end?
How did you go about making this happen?
What did you do to face the challenges in your life?

How was Crime Planned or Unplanned?

Did you plan to commit a crime? Or, did it feel like it “just happened”?
How do you explain how the crime happened?
When did you start planning, and how did you go about it?
At what point did you know you were going to commit a crime?
What was the main thing that made you realize you had an opportunity to commit a crime?

How Did You Justify What You Were Doing & Going to Do?

What were the main things going through your head just before the crime?
What were you thinking just before you committed the crime?
Did you feel what you were doing was okay, and what made you think it was okay?
Did you feel what you were doing was not acceptable, and what helped you ignore these feelings?
What did you think was responsible for the situation you were in?

How Did You Justify Why You Did It?

What was your first thought after the crime happened?
How did you explain to yourself what had happened, after the crime was over?
How easy or difficult was it for you to live with what had happened?
Did the crime affect how you thought about yourself?
What did you think was responsible for the crime?