



THOMAS SULLIVAN PH.D., ABPP

BOARD CERTIFIED IN CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

Support for HB 468

2810 Mack Road
Fairfield OH 45014
tom@thomassullivanphd.com

May 18, 2020

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Dr. Tom Sullivan. I am presenting testimony in support of HB 468.

I completed a doctoral degree at the University of Cincinnati, an internship at the Yale University School of Medicine, and a fellowship in neuropsychology at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

I have been on the staff at Cincinnati Children's Hospital since 1993, and have a private practice focused on brain injury assessment and treatment. I have provided concussion management services to the Cincinnati Bengals (or National Football League) since 1998. I have also completed about 1,500 brain injury evaluations at the behest of the courts, and have provided care to thousands of other brain-injured children and adults. I am board certified in my field.

As a clinician who has provided evaluations and treatment to children and adults with brain injuries in Ohio for the past 25 years, I have witnessed the trends impacting drivers. At the outset of my career, it was relatively common to treat those injured by drunk drivers. Thankfully, after many years of zealous attention by legislatures and police officers, injuries caused by drunk drivers have become much less common.

As there were virtually no cell phones when I began my career, it was very uncommon to see someone whose brain injury had been caused by a distracted driver. Such injuries increased somewhat when people began to use cell phones in their cars.

Unfortunately, the rate of injuries caused by distracted drivers has clearly skyrocketed since the introduction of 'smart phones' in 2007. Since that time, I have treated an ever-increasing number of children and adults who have been grievously injured by distracted drivers. I have treated brain-injured children whose entire families have been killed in accidents caused by drivers who never saw the vehicles they hit. In addition, I have treated children and adults who have been traumatized by seeing others killed and maimed by distracted drivers.

Many of these accidents have occurred when drivers stop in traffic or at red lights, only to be struck from behind by distracted drivers who never look up from their phones, never apply their brakes, and strike stopped cars at highway speeds. Many similar accidents occur in suburban areas, where distracted drivers run over children on bikes or pedestrians, or fail to note red lights and stop signs.

As someone passionately concerned about distracted driving, I typically watch other drivers when I am a passenger in a car. I consistently note that about 10 to 15% of drivers on the road are looking at their phones, and not at the road, when they pass me.

Unfortunately, it is my belief that large numbers of Ohioans will continue to be killed and maimed by distracted drivers unless the Legislature takes leadership in addressing this situation. I urge the Legislature to treat distracted driving with the same urgency previously applied to drunk driving, and to pass HB 468. My hope is that this change to the law, combined with active enforcement and education of the driving public, will save many lives.

I will provide this written testimony because of the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions. I would be happy to speak to any legislators about my concerns regarding distracted driving, and can be reached at the address listed above.

Thank you for your work in keeping Ohioans safe on the roads.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Sullivan, Ph.D.', with a stylized flourish.

Thomas Sullivan, Ph.D., ABPP-CN
Board Certified in Clinical Neuropsychology

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 5/18/20

Name: Thomas E. Sullivan, Ph.D.

Are you representing: Yourself Organization

Organization (If Applicable): _____

Position/Title: Clinical Neuropsychologist (Brain Injury Expert)

Address: 2810 Mack Road

City: Fairfield State: OH Zip: 45014

Best Contact Telephone: 513-290-6687 Email: Tom@Thomassullivanphd.com

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HB468

Specific Issue: Cell phone use while driving

Are you testifying as a: Proponent Opponent Interested Party

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? 15 minutes

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

See attached letter

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.

THOMAS SULLIVAN, PH.D., ABPP-CN
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Thomas Sullivan completed his doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology at the University of Cincinnati in 1994. His research focused on the behavioral impact of traumatic brain injury.

After an internship focused on neuropsychology at the Yale University School of Medicine, Dr. Sullivan completed a post-doctoral fellowship in pediatric neuropsychology at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Dr. Sullivan's work at CHMC focused primarily on children who had experienced brain injuries, who were born at high risk, and children with brain tumors. Dr. Sullivan has served on the staff at CHMC continuously since 1993, and has worked there in full-time, half-time, and volunteer capacities.

Dr. Sullivan is board certified in clinical neuropsychology. He conducts neuropsychological evaluations of children and adults. He has a full time private practice in Cincinnati.

Dr. Sullivan created the Cincinnati Bengals' concussion management program in 1998, and has been with the team continuously since that time, except for two years when he worked directly for the National Football League. He inaugurated the concussion management program for Cincinnati's Major League Soccer team, FC Cincinnati, in 2018, and continues to serve as the team's neuropsychologist.

In 2013, Dr. Sullivan was one of two neuropsychologists to provide testimony before the Ohio Legislature about HB-143, which amended the Ohio Revised Code regarding concussions and head injuries in youth sports.

Dr. Sullivan has completed about 1,500 independent evaluations for those in civil and criminal litigation in federal, state, and local courts. These cases are split approximately evenly between the plaintiff and the defense. His web site is thomassullivanphd.com.

THOMAS SULLIVAN, PH.D., ABPP

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LICENSE/BOARD CERTIFICATION

Board Certified Clinical Neuropsychologist, American Board of Professional Psychology
Ohio psychologist, license number 5083.

Indiana psychologist, license number 20042734A.

IPC: Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate, 4742 (allows limited practice in several states.)

EDUCATION

Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Neuropsychology,
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, 1994-96.

Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, University of Cincinnati, 1994.

Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, with emphasis in neuropsychology,
Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT, 1992-93.

M.A., Clinical Psychology, University of Cincinnati, 1991.

B.A., Psychology; B.A., English Literature, Merrimack College, North Andover, MA, 1985.
Magna Cum Laude. Rhodes Scholarship alternate for state of Maine, 1984.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Neuropsychologist, FC Cincinnati. Implementing concussion management system for the inaugural season of Major League Soccer team. Evaluate all members of the team. Determine when concussed players are capable of returning to competition. Director: 2018- present.

Adjunct Professor, Xavier University. Teach neuropsychology to students in the psychology doctoral program. May, 2017 - Present.

Adjunct Faculty, Wright State University, Dayton, OH. I occasionally offer practicum experienced to Clinical Psychology doctoral students. 2014-present.

Adjunct Faculty, University of Cincinnati. I have provided a 10 hour/week practicum experienced to Clinical Psychology doctoral students since 2009.

Neuropsychologist, Cincinnati Bengals. Created concussion management system for the Bengals. Neuropsychologically evaluate members of the team, and determine when they are capable of returning to the field of play. Director: 1998 - 2010. Co-director: 2012 - present.

Private Practitioner, Fairfield, OH. Provide neuropsychological and psychotherapeutic services. Conduct independent medical evaluations of adults and children. Co-facilitate a monthly neurology clinic at Children's Hospital Medical Center. August, 1999 - present.

Consultant, National Football League, New York, New York. One of eight neuropsychologists selected. Helped to determine battery of tests to be used to evaluate retired NFL players who claim disability due to brain damage. 2010-2012.

Consultant, Aptima Inc., Woburn MA. Helped design software tools intended to help rehabilitate US armed services veterans who have sustained traumatic brain injuries. 2009-2012.

Staff Neuropsychologist, Children's Medical Center, Dayton, Ohio. Conducted neuropsychological evaluations with children and adolescents. Most referrals from neurology and neurosurgery services. September, 1996 - June, 2003.

Staff Neuropsychologist, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Provided neuropsychological assessment and psychotherapy to children with neurologic injury, disease, or malformation. Co-facilitated a weekly neurology clinic. September, 1996 - December, 1999.

Private Practice Neuropsychologist, Riverhills Neurology, Cincinnati, OH. Neuropsychological assessment and psychotherapy with children and adults. September, 1996 - August, 1999.

Post-doctoral Fellow in Neuropsychology, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Assessed patients aged 3 - 22. Rotations included neuro-oncology, rehabilitation, movement disorders, and neurobehavioral disorders clinics. Conducted treatment with children and families. Externships with adult veterans and seizure surgery patients. 1994 - 1996.

Neuropsychology Intern, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Performed neuropsychological assessments with children who had been high risk infants, and those suspected of having attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder. 1993 - 1994.

Pre-doctoral Psychology Fellow, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT. Performed neuropsychological, projective and objective assessments with psychiatrically-hospitalized adults. Therapist for adults suffering from severe mental illness. 1992 - 1993.

Research Associate, Genetic Epidemiology Research Unit, Yale University School of Medicine. Performed brief neuropsychological batteries with children. 1992 - 1993.

Psychology Trainee, Child Focus, Batavia, OH. Provided individual, group, and family therapy. Performed psychological and forensic assessments with children. Half-time. 1991 - 1992.

Psychology Trainee, Cincinnati Center for Developmental Disorders. Assessed cognitive and emotional functioning of developmentally delayed and learning disabled children; conducted behavioral treatment. Half-time. 1989 - 1990.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, University of Cincinnati. Evening College. Designed and taught a two quarter upperclass Psychology of Personality course. 1994 - 1995.

Lecturer, U.C. Evening College. Designed/taught a full-year upperclass Abnormal Psychology and Childhood Psychopathology Course. Teaching effectiveness rating of 6.75 on a 7-point scale. 1990 - 1992; 1993 - 1994.

Lecturer, U.C. Psychology Department. Designed/taught an upperclass course in Abnormal Psychology and an Introduction to Psychology course. Designed and taught a section of an upperclass course in Motivation and Emotion in conjunction with Dr. William Dember 1991.

Instructional Designer, General Electric Aircraft Engines, Cincinnati. Designed and taught courses about computer usage and jet engine assembly steps. Wrote and produced instructional videotapes. 1985 - 1986.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Sullivan, T.E. (2016, September). *Uses of Neuroscience*. Lecture presented to the University of Cincinnati Neuroscience Club. Cincinnati, OH.

Treble-Barna, A. & Sullivan, T. (2015, March). *Recovery from Concussion*. Lecture presented at the 9th Annual Northern Kentucky Brain Injury Conference. Erlanger, KY.

Fischer, M., Sullivan, T., Shear, P.K. (2015, February). *Profound Memory Impairment as Rare Complication Following Bariatric Surgery*. Poster presented at the International Neuropsychological Society, Denver, CO.

Sullivan, T.E., O'Brien, K., & Cornelous, K. (2011, October). *New Insights Regarding Traumatic Brain Injury*. Grand rounds presented to the Psychiatry Department, Cincinnati Childrens Hospital Medical Center.

Sullivan, T.E., Cornelous, K., & O'Brien, K. (2011, September). *Neuropsychology Through the Lifespan*. Seven-hour keynote seminar presented to the Indiana Speech-Language-Hearing Association annual meeting, Indianapolis, IN.

Sullivan, T.E. (2011, July). *Youth concussion legislation: Pros and cons*. Testimony at hearing before the Subcommittee on Health and Aging, Ohio House of Representatives, Columbus, Ohio.

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Curriculum Vita

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Sullivan, T.E. (2011, April). *Neuropsychological Assessments in Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy Cases*. Lecture presented to the American Academy of Justice "Litigating Medical Negligence and Injured Infant Cases Seminar." Miami, FL.

Sullivan, T.E. & Antonini, T. (2010, February) *Neuropsychological Assessment and Intervention*. Lecture presented at "Processing Disorders: Multi-disciplinary Assessment and Treatment" seminar sponsored by the Division of Speech Pathology, Cincinnati Childrens Hospital Medical Center.

Sullivan, T.E. & Antonini, T. (2010, February) *Effort, Malingering, and Somatization*. Grand rounds presented to the Psychiatry Department, University of Cincinnati Medical Center.

Sullivan, T.E. , Manning-Courtney, P. & Antonini, T. (2010, February) *The Behavioral Impact of White Matter Pathology*. Grand rounds presented to the Psychiatry Department, Cincinnati Childrens Hospital Medical Center.

Sullivan, T. E. (2007, November) *Neuropsychological Evaluation in Brain Injury Cases*. Lecture Presented to the Louisville, KY bar Association.

Sullivan, T. E. (2007, September) *Use of Neuropsychological Evaluations in Forensic Cases*. Lecture presented to the Potter Stewart American Inn of Court. Cincinnati, Ohio

Sullivan, T.E. (2006, January). *Management of Sports Concussions*. Lecture presented to the annual meeting of the Kentucky Athletic Trainers Society, Louisville, KY.

Weber, A.M., McKellop, J.M., Gyato, K., Sullivan, T., & Franz, D.N. (2001). Metachromatic leukodystrophy and nonverbal learning disability: neuropsychological and neuroradiological findings in heterozygous carriers. *Child Neuropsychology*, 7, 54-58.

Sullivan, T.E. (2001, June). *Use of Neuropsychological Assessment in Legal Cases*. Lecture presented to the Kentucky Academy of Trial Attorneys, Bowling Green, KY.

Sullivan, T.E. (2001, June). *Neuropsychological Impact of Hydrocephalus*. Lecture presented to a conference about hydrocephalus sponsored by the Neurosurgery Department of Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH.

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Sullivan, T.E. (2001, June). *Neuropsychological Evaluation of Athletes*. Lecture presented to the annual meeting of the National Association of Psychometrists, Cincinnati, OH.

Sullivan, T.E. (1999, February). *Enhancing Music Education for Handicapped Students*. Lecture presented to the Ohio Music Education Association annual meeting, Cincinnati, OH.

Maines, T.L, Ris, M.D., Sullivan, T.E., & Weber, A.M. (1999, February). *Convergent and discriminant validity of the Developmental Scoring System for the Rey Complex Figure*. Poster presented at the meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Boston, MA.

Philbrook, B. & Sullivan, T.E. (1998, November). *Concussion in Sports: Guidelines for On-Site Assessment and Return to Play*. Grand rounds presentation at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Winner of the Mead-Johnson Excellence in Teaching Award.

Sullivan, T.E., Warm, J.S., Schefft, B.K., Dember, W.N., O'Dell, M.W., & Peterson, S.J. (1998). Effects of olfactory stimulation on the vigilance performance of individuals with brain injury. *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology*, 20, 227-236.

Sullivan, T.E. (1998, October). *The Neuropsychology of Sport-Related Head Injuries*. Lecture presented to the first annual Sports Injury Symposium, Dayton, OH.

Sullivan, T.E. (1998, February). *Tourette's Syndrome: The Neuropsychological Perspective*. Lecture presented to the Society of Child Clinical Psychologists, Cincinnati, OH.

Hawkins, K., Sullivan, T.E., & Choi, E.J. (1997) Memory deficits in schizophrenia: inadequate assimilation or true amnesia? Findings from the Wechsler Memory Scale - Revised. *Journal of Psychiatry and Neuroscience*, 22, 169-179.

Sullivan, T.E. & Dunn T.M. (1997, October). *The Neuropsychology of Football Injuries*. Lecture presented to a consortium of health professionals. Cincinnati, OH.

Sullivan, T.E., Ris, M.D., Maines, T., Pool, D., Daniels, S., & Loggie, J. (1997, February). *Neuropsychological functioning of hypertensive children*. Poster presented at the meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Orlando, FL.

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Sullivan, T.E. & Chase, C.A. (1997, February). *Neuropsychological performance of an adolescent with delayed postanoxic encephalopathy*. Poster presented at the meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Orlando, FL.

Sullivan, T.E. (1996, April). *Informing the Rehabilitation Patient of a Loved One's Death*. Lecture presented at Children's Hospital Medical Center, Seattle, WA.

Sullivan, T.E. & Hawkins, K. (1996, February) *Memory deficits in schizophrenia: Information acquisition or true amnesia?* Poster presented at the meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Chicago, IL.

Sullivan, T.E., Schefft, B.K., Warm, J.S., Dember, W.N., O'Dell, M.W., & Peterson, S.J. (1995). Recent advances in the neuropsychology of human olfaction and anosmia. *Brain Injury*, 9, 641-646.

Sullivan, T.E. & Hawkins, K. (1995). Support for the abbreviation of the Wide Range Achievement Test, Spelling subtest in neuropsychological assessments. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 51, 552-554.

Sullivan, T.E., Schefft, B.K., Warm, J.S., & O'Dell, M.W. (1995, February). *Olfactory stimulation and behavioral dyscontrol in closed-head-injured individuals*. Paper presented at the meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Cincinnati, OH.

Sullivan, T.E., Schefft, B.K., Warm, J.S., & Dember, W.N. (1994). Closed head injury assessment and research methodology. *Journal of Neuroscience Nursing*, 26, 24-29.

Sullivan, T.E., Warm, J.S., Dember, W.N., & Schefft, B.K. (1992, April). *Vigilance performance of high and low resourceful individuals*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Southern Society for Psychology and Philosophy, Atlanta, GA.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Psychological Association (Division 40, Clinical Neuropsychology)

Midwest Neuropsychology Group

Cincinnati Association of Professional Psychology

Cincinnati Society of Child Clinical Psychologists