

# APPLICATION FOR INSANITY INQUEST

TO THE JUDGE OF THE ~~SUPERIOR~~ <sup>CIRCUIT</sup> COURT OF Adams County, Indiana:

Your informant respectfully represents that one Charlotte Sommer now residing in said county, is insane and a fit subject for custody and treatment in a State Hospital for Insane, as he verily believes, and he therefore asks that necessary steps be taken to examine into her condition, as the law provides in such cases. Your informant further states that to his best knowledge and belief, the legal settlement of said Charlotte Sommer is in Indiana; that said

from 1900 (Date) and became a resident of Adams County (Date) This person's places of residence for three years prior to coming to Indiana were

That his present address is Geneva, Indiana In making this petition, I do hereby certify that I am a relative of said Charlotte Sommer (Relative or Friend) ; that I am a legal resident of Adams County,

and that my address is Geneva, Indiana In case of emergency, notify Christian Sommer Geneva, Ind. (Name and Address of relative or friend) Telephone 80-M Telegraph station Geneva

## PERSONAL HISTORY

Of Charlotte Locke Sommer  
 Born (Month) August (Day) 15th (Year) 1897 Place Elwood, Ind.  
 Color White Sex female Married  Single  Widowed  Divorced  Separated   
 IF A WOMAN: Is she pregnant? No Number of children borne 3 Present age of youngest 21  
 Has she passed menopause? yes  
 Birthplace of father unknown Birthplace of mother unknown  
 If person is of foreign birth, give date of entry into the United States Port of entry  
 Steamship line Steamship  
 If of foreign birth, is person naturalized?  
 Education: None Reads only Reads and writes Common school   
 High school College Religion protestant Occupation Housewife Where last employed and how long?  
 Estate: Value Approx. \$1000,00 Nature owns 1/3 of home jointly with two children  
 Guardian: Name Address

## HISTORY OF INSANITY

How long have you known this person? 25 years Have you known this person intimately? yes  
 When was the first sign of insanity observed by you? 2 months ago  
 What was the first sign of insanity observed by you? Claimed various people were following her to see where she was going, what she was doing. Had a feeling people were gossiping about her, Snubbing her, & otherwise doing her harm.  
 Was the present attack gradual or sudden in its onset? gradual I believe  
 State what leads you to believe this person is insane Hears voices - God's or Satan's, delusions of persecution; believed doctor was trying to poison her; has periods of silence during which she apparently is unaware of surroundings.  
 What moral deficiencies have been shown? none  
 What was the mental and moral disposition in health? very often despondent  
 Number of previous attacks of mental disorder? One - mild - during beginning of menopause - age 42  
 Has this person been a patient in any hospital for insane? no Where, when and how long?  
 Has this person suffered serious physical injury? no If so, give particulars  
 Has this person suffered any serious illness? yes State when and of what nature Erysipelas - 1937  
 Has this person suffered any great mental shock or strain? no  
 Has this person required feeding, seclusion or restraint? no Explain fully  
 Has this person been addicted to any drugs? no Explain fully  
 (Answer yes or no.) Is person paralytic? no Violent? no Destructive? no Excited? no  
 Depressed? yes Homicidal? no Suicidal? perhaps Is there any physical defect or deformity? no  
 Has person ever suffered from syphilis? no Has there been a Wasserman test? Positive?  
 Negative? Does person indulge or has person indulged in any venereal excess? no  
 Is person epileptic? no Was person feeble-minded in childhood? no

## FAMILY HISTORY

Give name and address of following relatives. (If dead, state cause of death and age at death.)

	NAME	ADDRESS	IF DEAD	
			Cause	Age at Death
Father	John Locke	deceased	unknown	
Mother (Maiden Name)	Sarah "	deceased	unknown	
Father's father	Unknown			
Father's mother	Unknown			
Mother's father	Unknown			
Mother's mother	Unknown			
Brother	Henry Locke David Locke	Indianapolis, Indiana Soldiers Home Marion, Ind.		
Sister	Raymond Locke	unknown		
	Two sisters, names unknown			

Which of person's parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, uncles or aunts, if any (give name) ever had the following diseases:

Insanity One Brother, David, now at Soldiers Home, Epilepsy  
Marion, Ind.

Spasms Fainting spells

Nervous prostration Hysteria

Feeble-mindedness Tuberculosis

Syphilis

Was either of the person's parents or grandparents intemperate in the use of alcohol? yes

Was either of person's parents or grandparents addicted to the use of opium, cocaine or other narcotics? It is not known

The statement of Amos Reusser M. D., the attending physician, is filed herewith and made a part hereof.

The undersigned citizen of said county, upon oath, declares that the foregoing allegation, personal history, family history and history of persons's insanity, are true to the best of h knowledge and belief.

IRENE S. SHOEMAKER

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 26 day of June 19 48

EDWARD F. JABERG  
Notary Public or County Clerk

## STATEMENT OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

I, Amos Reusser M. D., of Berne in the County of Adams Indiana, do hereby certify that I am licensed to practice medicine in the State of Indiana; that on the 24th day of June 19 48 I did carefully and personally examine Charlotte Sommer and believe h to be suffering from mental disease, and I am of the opinion that he is a proper person for admission to a State Hospital. I have observed the following facts regarding her mental and physical condition: She feels that her house is haunted - talks to spirits - imagines that people are following her - at times she refuses to talk

I further certify that patient is free from any contagious disease and from vermin.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25 day of June 19 48

AMOS REUSSER M. D.  
19 48

Notary Public

## VACCINATION

This is to certify that the said Charlotte Sommer has been vaccinated for smallpox by myself, or by another physician, to my positive knowledge within 60 days of this date.  
Date 6-26- 19 48

AMOS REUSSER M. D.

## STATEMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER

I, D. D. Jones M. D., of Berne, Indiana in the County of Adams Indiana, do hereby certify that I am duly licensed to practice medicine in Indiana; that I am not related by consanguinity or marriage to Charlotte Sommer of said County, who is alleged to be insane and whom I have carefully and personally examined this 30 day of June 19 48 : that I am of the opinion that s he is mentally ill and is a proper person for detention, care and treatment in a State Hospital; and that I have formed my opinion that she is mentally ill from the following facts observed by me. (Describe physical and mental conditions, appearance and behavior of patient.) Non-Communicative, delusion attitude of being persecuted, being watched constantly by unseen persons. From history has shown violence on occasions

I have also received the following information from others relative to the patient's condition: At times non-communicative, morose, restless, shown violence on a few occasions.

D. D. JONES

M. D.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1 day of July

19 48

EDWARD F. JABERG  
Clerk Adams Circuit Court Notary Public

STATEMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER

I, C. P. Hinchman M. D., of Geneva in the County of Adams Indiana, do hereby certify that I am duly licensed to practice medicine in Indiana; that I am not related, by consanguinity or marriage, to Charlotte Sommer of said County, who is alleged to be insane, and whom I have carefully and personally examined this 30 day of June 1948; that I am of the opinion that he is mentally ill and is a proper person for detention, care and treatment in a State Hospital; and that I have formed my opinion that he is mentally ill from the following facts observed by me. (Describe physical and mental conditions, appearance and

behavior of patient.) She has delusions of persecution, that some one is going to poison her, and that she is being talked about and plotted against, also depressive delusions refusing to eat or talk, She may stand in one position for hours, or sit up all night on a chair. Usually in a back room away from others. Her reaction time for answering questions is very slow

I have also received the following information from others relative to the patient's condition: That for the last three months she is gradually becoming more depressive, does not take the usual interest in her home, is unable to sleep, and makes no attempt to go to bed, that she may sit brooding for hours either day or night.

C. P. HINCHMAN

M. D.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30 day of June

19 1948

EDWARD F. JABERG  
Clerk Adams Circuit Court Notary Public

JUDGE'S ORDER OF COMMITMENT

In the matter of the application for the commitment of to the Richmond State Hospital: Comes now Irene S. Shoemaker who filed application for the commitment to the Richmond State Hospital, alleging therein that said Charlotte Locke Sommer is a resident of Adams County and has her legal settlement in the State of Indiana, and is insane. And having read such application and heard such other evidence as was deemed necessary to a full investigation of the facts stated in such application, I Earl B. Adams Judge of the Circuit Superior Court of the County of Adams Indiana, do hereby find and determine that the said Charlotte Locke Sommer is insane and is in need of hospital care, and do hereby order her committed to the Richmond State Hospital; and this shall be sufficient warrant and authority for her admission, confinement and detention for care and treatment in said hospital until she shall be restored to health, or removed or discharged according to law. And the clerk of this court is hereby directed to apply forthwith to the superintendent of the Richmond State Hospital for the admission of the said Charlotte Locke Sommer and to transmit with said application to said superintendent for his information, copies of all statements and certificates submitted, and to certify thereto under seal of this court.

EARL B. ADAMS

Judge of the Adams Circuit Court

STATE OF INDIANA

Adams COUNTY } SS: I, Edward F. Jaberg Clerk of the Circuit Court, and ex-officio Clerk of the Superior Court of said county, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the application, including statement of the attending physician, for the commitment of Charlotte Locke Sommer to the Richmond State Hospital; and the statements of the two medical examiners appointed by the court to examine said person, and the court's order of commitment in said matter.

In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and fix the seal of said court, this 7 day of July 1948

[SEAL]

EDWARD F. JABERG

Clerk

ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION

Transcripts of all the foregoing statements and certificates duly certified under the seal of the court were transmitted to the Superintendent State Hospital together with application for h admission as a patient in said hospital and afterwards, to wit: On the 22 day of August 1948, an answer was received as follows:

STATE HOSPITAL August 22 1948

To the Clerk of the Adams Circuit Court, Adams County, Indiana:

The receipt of a transcript of the proceedings in the matter of the inquest as to the insanity of with application for the admission of said person into this Hospital, is hereby respectfully acknowledged. According to the provisions of an Act Concerning Insanity Inquests, etc., approved March 4th, 1927, the application is

M. D. Medical Superintendent

ORDER OF COURT

The receipt of the acceptance of the application for the admission of Charlotte Sommer to the Easthaven State Hospital, as a patient was referred to the Judge of Adams Circuit Court of Adams County, Indiana, and being fully advised he made an order directing that be conveyed to said hospital, either by a relative or relatives, or a friend or friends, if they so desire; and if they, or any of them, do not so desire, by a suitable attendant, or by the County Sheriff, together with assistants and a female attendant, if the patient be a female, as required by law and that due return be made of the complete execution of this order.

Witness my hand and the seal of Adams Circuit Adams Court, Adams County, this 24 day of August 1948 Edward F. Jaberg Clerk P. O. Address of Patient St. Indiana.

Geneva, Indiana SUPERINTENDENT'S RECEIPT

STATE HOSPITAL

RECEIVED, this 25 25 day of August August A. D. 19 48 the patient named in the above order of court

M. D. Medical Superintendent

RETURN ON COMMITMENT

CAME TO HAND August 24 19 48, and served by conveying the within named Charlotte Locke Sommer and committing her to the Richmond State Hospital, as shown by the Superintendent's receipt hereon endorsed this 25 day of August 1948

\$12.16

HERMAN BOWMAN, SHERIFF

STATE OF INDIANA RICHMOND STATE HOSPITAL RICHMOND, IND., May 10, 1949 TO THE CLERK OF Adams County CIRCUIT COURT: THIS IS TO CERTIFY, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SEC. 2, CHAP. 263, ACTS 1933 THAT Charlotte Sommer, A PATIENT OF THIS HOSPITAL, HAS BEEN DISCHARGED THIS 10th DAY OF May 1949 IN MY OPINION, SAID PATIENT IS SUFFICIENTLY RECOVERED TO BE RELEASED. IMPROVED ON FURLOUGH SAID PATIENT WAS COMMITTED TO THIS HOSPITAL July 7, 1948 BY THE CIRCUIT COURT OF Adams COUNTY, her ADDRESS AT THAT TIME BEING GIVEN AS Geneva, Indiana (FILL OUT "1" OR "2" AND STRIKE OUT THE OTHER) 1. SAID PATIENT WAS RELEASED FROM THIS HOSPITAL November 10, 1949 TO Mrs. Irene Shoemaker AND IS NOW RESIDING AT Geneva, Indiana

SEAL OF HOSPITAL

Alfred W. Snedeker M. D. SUPERINTENDENT

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS 10th DAY OF May 1949

Herman C. Stuck NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES November 20, 1949

Sheriff County

This 19