



# LIMITS OF CONFIDENTIALITY

Contents of all therapy sessions are considered to be confidential. Both verbal information and written records about a client cannot be shared with another party without the written consent of the client or the client's legal guardian. Noted exceptions are as follows:

## **Duty to Warn and Protect**

When a client discloses intentions or a plan to harm another person, the mental health professional is required to warn the intended victim and report this information to legal authorities. In cases in which the client discloses or implies a plan for suicide, the healthcare professional is required to notify legal authorities and make reasonable attempts to notify the family of the client.

## **Abuse of Children and Vulnerable Adults**

If a client states or suggests that he or she is abusing a child (or vulnerable adult) or has recently abused a child (or vulnerable adult), or a child (or vulnerable adult) is in danger of abuse, the mental health professional is required to report this information to the appropriate social service and/or legal authorities.

## **Court Cases and/or Legal Proceedings**

If you become involved in a court case or proceeding, you can prevent me from testifying in court about what you have told me. There are, however, some situations where a judge may require me to testify. I will discuss this with you before releasing any information.

## **Prenatal Exposure to Controlled Substances**

Mental Health care professionals are required to report admitted prenatal exposure to controlled substances that are potentially harmful.

**Insurance Providers and Financial Matters** (when applicable)

Insurance companies and other third-party payers are given information that they request regarding services to clients.

Information that may be requested includes type of services, dates/times of services, diagnosis, treatment plan, and description of impairment, progress of therapy, case notes, and summaries.

In the event of unpaid services, the therapist may use legal means to receive payment. The only information provided to a court, lawyer or collection agency will be the client name, address, therapy session dates and the amount owed.

*I agree to the above limits of confidentiality and understand their meanings and ramifications.*

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Client Signature (Client's Parent/Guardian if under 18)

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Printed name

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Today's Date