

# Consent for Treatment and Limits of Liability

## **Limits of Services and Assumption of Risks:**

Therapy sessions carry both benefits and risks. Therapy sessions can significantly reduce the amount of distress someone is feeling, improve relationships, and/or resolve other specific issues. However, these improvements and any “cures” cannot be guaranteed for any condition due to the many variables that affect these therapy sessions. Experiencing uncomfortable feelings, discussing unpleasant situations and/or aspects of your life are considered risks of therapy sessions.

## **Limits of Confidentiality:**

What you discuss during your in person or telehealth (video, telephone, text, or email) therapy is kept confidential. While telehealth conducted in a protected environment is generally secure, the risks are real and should be taken seriously. You are responsible for ensuring the equipment used and the location of your telehealth visits are confidential and not accessible to others. Electronic communication cannot be used for emergencies or time-sensitive information. The provider is not responsible for third party breaches. Beyond the risks of telehealth, no contents of the therapy sessions, whether verbal or written may be shared with another party without your written consent or the written consent of your legal guardian. The following is a list of exceptions:

### **Duty to Warn and Protect**

If you disclose a plan or threat to harm yourself, the therapist must attempt to notify your family and notify legal authorities. In addition, if you disclose a plan to threaten or harm another person, the therapist is required to warn the possible victim and notify legal authorities.

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

If you disclose, or it is suspected, that there is abuse or harmful neglect of children or vulnerable adults (i.e. the elderly, disabled/incompetent), the therapist must report this information to the appropriate state agency and/or legal authorities.

### **Prenatal Exposure to Controlled Substances**

Therapists must report any admitted prenatal exposure to controlled substances that could be harmful to the mother or the child.

### **Minors/Guardianship**

Parents or legal guardians of non-emancipated minor clients have the right to access the clients’ records.

### **Insurance Providers**

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

The type of information that may be requested includes: types of service, dates/times of service, diagnosis, treatment plan, description of impairment, progress of therapy, case notes, summaries, etc.

*By signing below, I agree to the above assumption of risk and limits of confidentiality and understand their meanings and ramifications.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Client Signature (Client’s Parent/Guardian if under 18)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date