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LIMITS OF CONFIDENTIALITY

The 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:

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.

Prenatal Exposure to Controlled Substances

Mental healthcare professionals are required to report admitted prenatal exposure to controlled substances that are potentially harmful to an unborn fetus.

Minors/Guardianship

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

Insurance Providers (when applicable)

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

Required by Law: We may use or disclose PHI when required or permitted to do so by law. For example, I may disclose for: Child Abuse; Elderly Abuse; Court Order; disclosures to the Military or National Security Agencies; disclosures to a coroner, medical examiner, or funeral director to identify a deceased person or cause of death, or other similar circumstances; or disclosure to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services for the purpose of investigating or determining our compliance with the requirements of the Privacy Rule.

Information that may be requested includes, but is not limited to: types of service, dates/times of service, diagnosis, treatment plan, description of impairment, progress of therapy, case notes and summaries.

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