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Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, 47685

To My Clients:

It is important that you understand that anything you tell me is completely confidential. Unless I have specific written permission, (a Release of Information form) signed by you, I tell no one that you come here or what you say.

There are several exceptions to this rule that I want to be sure you understand.

1. I am required to report any suspected child or elder abuse (either current or past) to local child protective services or law enforcement officials within 24 hours. (Section 11161.5-Cal Penal Code). Abuse is defined as the willful cruelty to or the unjustifiable punishment of a child or elder person, or endangering the life or health of either one. This includes sexual molestation, the willful failure to provide necessary food, clothing, shelter and medical attention (Section 273a-Cal Penal Code). If any therapist fails to report, he or she may be both civilly and criminally liable.
2. If I believe that you actually intend to do physical harm to someone else, I must notify the police and the intended victim.
3. If I believe that you truly intend to harm yourself, I will make every effort to insure your safety. I will call family members or friends. If I am unable to contact them I must notify the police.

Client Signature

___/___/___
Date

Parent Signature (if client is under 18)

___/___/___
Date

Family Member Signature

___/___/___
Date