

**Mary Walseth, M.A., LPC**

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LIMITS OF CONFIDENTIALITY

The therapy session is considered to be confidential between client and therapist. Verbal and written records about any client cannot be shared with another party *without the written consent* of the client or the client's legal guardian. The exceptions to this policy are:

**Duty to Warn and Protect.** When a client discloses intentions of and/or a plan to harm another person, the therapist may warn the intended victim and report this information to legal authorities. In cases where the client discloses or *implies* a plan for a suicide, the therapist 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 if there is a perceived danger of abuse of a child or vulnerable adult, the therapist is required to report this information to the appropriate social service and/or legal authorities.

**Prenatal Exposure to Controlled Substances.** The therapist is required to report any admitted prenatal exposure to controlled substances that are potentially harmful.

**Minors/Guardianship.** Parents or legal guardians of non-emancipated minor clients have the right to access the clients' records.

**Insurance Providers (where applicable).** Insurance companies and other third-party payers are given information that they request regarding services to clients. Information that may be requested includes the type of services, diagnosis, treatment plan, progress of therapy, case notes and summaries, and description of impairment.

*By signing this document I agree to the above limits of confidentiality and understand their meaning and ramifications.*

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Client Signature (or parent/legal guardian if under 18)

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Today's Date