

# Suda Centers, Inc. Encino, West Los Angeles, Glendale

Therapist \_

Telephone #\_\_\_\_\_ License # \_\_\_\_\_

Welcome to our practice. This document contains important information about my professional services, business practices, and legal and ethical considerations as they pertain to the client-therapist relationship. By signing this document, you are entering into an agreement with the therapist and acknowledging "informed consent."

## **Confidentiality**

For adults who enter into therapy, the conversations are confidential. I will not share our conversations with outside parties, unless the client signs a written request to release any information. As it pertains to couples or marital therapy, both parties would need to sign a release in order to release any information. Legal exceptions to confidentiality do exist. In the cases of child or elder abuse, or if the client presents a danger to himself or someone else, I would be legally mandated to break confidentiality. Court orders (but not subpoenas) also constitute exceptions to confidentiality and client-therapist privilege.

## **Minors and Confidentiality**

Communications between therapists and their minor clients are protected by confidentiality, just as with adult clients. However, parents/guardians who provide authorization for treatment often wish to be involved in their child's well-being and to know in general terms how the child is doing. As such, I tend to include parents in their child's treatment in a very limited capacity, and I use my professional judgment about how much to share (or not share) with the parents or guardians.

## Appointments, Cancellations, and Fees

Fifty (50) minutes constitutes a unit of treatment in therapy and is the standard length of a session. The fee for therapy is set by your insurer, and you will be responsible for paying the co-pay each session, which is also set thru insurance. Co-payments will be collected at the beginning of each session.

Your consistent attendance at therapy is vital to reaching goals and ensuring a successful outcome. Cancellations must be made with 24 hours notice. <u>Failure to do so will result in you being billed for</u> <u>services at the same rate at which Kaiser Permanente reimburses.</u> You are responsible for this payment. Insurance does not cover missed sessions.



#### **Emergencies**

You will not be billed for missed appointments due to emergency. In the event of an emergency, do not contact your therapist, but instead call 911 to request emergency assistance.

#### **Insurance**

I am currently an approved external provider for Kaiser Permanente. For all other insurers, I am out-of-network and would provide you with a superbill/invoice which you may submit to your insurance company for reimbursement (PPO and POS plans). Whether or not the insurance company will reimburse for out-of-network services is between the client and the insurance provider.

Your signature indicates you have read this document and understand its contents.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_