

**JOYCE D SCHERDIN, MSC,**  
Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist  
Mobile (502) 396-0087

## Informed Consent

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### CLIENT INFORMATION:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

How may I contact you? Check all that apply: Phone \_\_\_\_ Text \_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_ Mail \_\_\_\_

Emergency contact (Name, Phone, Relation): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**CONSENT TO TREATMENT:** This agreement made this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, by and between **Joyce D Scherdin**, (Therapist) and \_\_\_\_\_ (Client).

Consent to treatment for myself, or for my family member who is a minor or dependent adult.

- The Therapist shall provide counseling as it pertains to the client(s) needs.
- All therapy will be within the scope of professional practice per the State of Kentucky Board of License for Marriage and Family Therapy.
- \_\_\_\_\_(signature)

**DISCLOSURE STATEMENT:** JD Scherdin, Inc., doing business as Scherdin Counseling is established to provide therapy to individuals, couples, married or pre or post-marriage, and families. I am a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist with a Master's of Science in Counseling. As a Therapist I utilize approaches that are the best fit for each client(s) needs and goals. I understand that seeking counseling

and participating in psychotherapy with a Therapist can be very helpful and can result in an improved life, improved circumstances and improved relationships, along with or in addition to reduced psychological symptoms. At times life, circumstances and relationships may appear to be or be experienced as deteriorating while in counseling. Often in the course of change this can occur naturally. As you think about a physical injury, the natural course of the body's process is to temporarily appear to be getting worse through signs of bruising, or increased irritation to the wound as examples, while the healing process progresses. Therapy progresses in much the same way, so I invite you to be patient with yourself, the current circumstances, and the counseling process as together we move toward the improvements you are seeking through therapy.

**CONFIDENTIALITY:** I understand that all information disclosed within sessions or consultations is held strictly confidential and may not be revealed to anyone without a written release of information.

State law dictates specific exceptions to maintaining confidentiality; Joyce D Scherdin, therapist is required by law to break client confidentiality when any of the following occurs:

- I am required to report abuse (including physical, sexual or neglect) of a minor, vulnerable adult or elder adult.
- I am required to report the use of controlled substances while pregnant.
- I am required to report the intention to seriously harm yourself or others.
- I am required to comply with state or federal law, rules or regulations to disclose information when Court ordered.

## **POLICIES:**

**Telecommunication Policies:** I understand that if I need to contact my Therapist by phone, I should not hesitate to call her at (502) 396-0087. If you elect to communicate with your therapist via telephone, email, or other similar methods confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. Additionally, extended phone calls which serve as therapy sessions will be prorated hourly per our therapy service fees.

### **Out of Session Emergency**

When you are not in session, your therapist may not be available due to other clients, unforeseen events or being outside normal business hours. You may leave a message on the confidential voicemail at 502-396-0087 and your therapist will return your call within 1 business day. If it is an emergency please call 911 or 800-221-0446 a crisis hotline.

**FINANCIAL AGREEMENT:** Joyce D Scherdin, is a fee for service provider. This means the service fee is the client's responsibility to pay at the time of service. There are many benefits to a fee for service provider. Your therapist is not required to diagnose you with a mental disorder in order to be reimbursed or reported to the Medical Information Bureau. Your privacy is maximized. You, the client have control over what care you receive and for how long.

I \_\_\_\_\_, agree to pay \$145 for a 50 minute session. I understand that the fee is billed if session is cancelled less than 48 hours in advance. I agree to a \$25 service charge for any returned checks on my account. I understand that I am responsible for all fees at the time the service is rendered, and agree to a loss of confidentiality for the purpose of collecting fees in court if I incur an outstanding balance more than six months after my last session.

**Appointments:** *Cancellation of an appointment without a minimum 48 hour notice will result in the full appointment fee charged to the client.* \_\_\_\_\_(initial).

If 3 or more sessions are missed without giving 48 hour notice, therapist, Joyce D Scherdin reserves the right to end therapy services by letter/phone.

Clients who must increase their mental health needs by admission to an inpatient facility and still require my assistance while in treatment will be charged the same hourly rate as agreed upon by this informed consent. This covers phone calls, consultations and any written requirements by the facility.

Clients are discouraged from having their therapist subpoenaed. Even though you are responsible for the testimony fee, it does not mean that my testimony will be solely in your favor. I can only testify to the facts of the case and to my professional opinion. For those who fail to heed this discouragement, the following fees are in effect:

1. Preparation time (including submission of records): \$220/hr
2. Phone calls: \$220/hr
3. Depositions: \$250/hour
4. Time required in giving testimony: \$250/hour
5. Mileage: \$0.40/mile
6. Time away from office due to depositions or testimony: \$220/hour
7. All attorney fees and costs incurred by the therapist as a result of the legal action.
8. Filing a document with the court: \$100
9. The minimum charge for a court appearance: \$1500

A retainer of \$1500 is due in advance. If a subpoena or notice to meet attorney(s) is received without a minimum of 48-hour notice there will be an additional \$250 "express" charge. Also, if the case is reset with less than 72 business hours' notice, then the client will be charged \$500 (in addition to the retainer of \$1500).

***Credit Card Policy for No Show Fees & late cancellation (Required for Therapy)*** Enter your credit card number \_\_\_\_\_ Security code \_\_\_\_\_, Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ and billing zip code \_\_\_\_\_ for this card. Please bring Card to 1<sup>st</sup> Session to Confirm. You will not be charged on this card unless you cancel your appointment with less than 48 hours' notice or a No Show appointment incurred.

*I have read all of the above and every preceding page of the client informed consent and understand its contents. My signature below shows that I understand and agree with all of these provisions set forth above and in the preceding pages of the client informed consent.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of client (or client legal guardian)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date