## (PBH) Arbitration Agreement

## **Arbitration Agreement**

I agree to address any grievances I may have directly with my therapist/clinician/psychiatric provider immediately. If we cannot settle the matter between us, then a jointly agreed-upon outside consultant will be sought. If not, an arbitration process will be initiated under the auspices of the American Arbitration Association, which will be considered as a complete resolution and legally binding decision under state law, which (in California) states as follows:

"NOTICE: BY SIGNING THIS CONTRACT YOU ARE AGREEING TO HAVE ANY ISSUE OF MEDICAL MALPRACTICE DECIDED BY NEUTRAL ARBITRATION AND YOU ARE GIVING UP YOUR RIGHT TO A JURY OR COURT TRIAL. SEE ARTICLE ONE OF THIS CONTRACT."

Article I: "It is understood that any dispute as to medical or professional malpractice, that is as to whether any medical/psychological/psychiatric services rendered under this contract were unnecessary or unauthorized or were improperly, negligently or incompetently rendered, will be determined by submission to arbitration as provided by (state) law, and not be lawsuit or resort to court process except as (state) law provides for judicial review or arbitration proceedings.

Both parties to this contract, by entering into it, are giving up their constitutional right to have any such dispute decided in a court of law before a jury, and instead are accepting the use of arbitration." Any arbitration process will be considered as a complete resolution and legally binding decision. The client will be responsible for the costs of this process. In agreeing to treatment, you are consenting to the above identified grievance procedures.

This agreement constitutes the entirety of our professional contract. Any changes must be signed by both parties. I have a right to keep a copy of this contract. I have read this informed consent completely and have raised any questions that I may have about it with my therapist. I have received full and satisfactory answers and agree to the provisions freely and without reservations. This authorization remains in effect with no termination following the end of services.