

Electronics Communications Policy

In order to maintain clarity regarding our use of electronic modes of communication during your treatment, we have prepared the following policy. This is because the use of various types of electronic communications is common in our society, and many individuals believe this is the preferred method of communication with others, whether their relationships are social or professional. Many of these common modes of communication, however, put your privacy at risk and can be inconsistent with the law and with the standards of our profession. Consequently, this policy has been prepared to assure the security and confidentiality of your treatment and to assure that it is consistent with ethics and the law.

If you have any questions about this policy, please feel free to discuss this with your psychologist.

Email Communications

Dr. Horn uses email communication and text messaging only with your permission and only for administrative purposes unless we have made another agreement. That means that email exchanges and text messages with her office should be limited to things like setting and changing appointments. ***Please do not email Dr. Horn about clinical matters because email is not a secure way to communicate.*** If you need to discuss a clinical matter, please feel free to call so we can discuss it on the phone or wait so we can discuss it during your therapy session. The telephone or face-to-face context simply is much more secure as a mode of communication.

Text Messaging

Because text messaging is a very unsecure and impersonal mode of communication we try to avoid text messaging. So, please do not text message us unless we have made other arrangements. Dr. Horn does permit texting regarding making or changing appointments or brief exchange of information such as "I'm on my way""front door is locked," etc. ***Please do not send clinical matters via text as it is not a secure or reliable way to communicate.***

Social Media

Dr. Horn does not communicate with, or contact, any of her clients through social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook. She does not accept friend requests from current or former clients on any social media sites. Friending clients as "friends" compromises treatment boundaries. She does not follow former or current clients on any social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter or Pinterest. She is concerned with your privacy, therefore following would compromise your confidentiality. In addition, if it is discovered that an online relationship with you was accidentally established, she will likely cancel that relationship. This is because these types of casual social contacts can create significant security risks for you.

Dr. Horn participates on various social networks. If you have an online presence, there is a possibility that you may encounter her by accident. If that occurs, please discuss it with her during your time together. It is believed that any online communication with clients may have a high potential to

compromise the professional relationship. In addition, please do not try to contact her in this way. She will not respond and will terminate any online contact no matter how accidental.

Websites

Dr. Horn's has a website that you are free to access. She uses it for professional reasons to provide information to others about her practice. You are welcome to access and review the information that is on the website and, if you have questions about it, we should discuss this during your therapy sessions.

Web Searches

Dr. Horn will not use web searches to gather information about you without your permission. She believes this violates your privacy rights; however, she understands that you might choose to gather information about her in this way. In this day and age there is an incredible amount of information available about individuals on the internet, much of which may actually be known to that person and some of which may be inaccurate or unknown. If you encounter any information about her through web searches, or in any other fashion for that matter, please discuss this during your time together so that you can deal with it and its potential impact on your treatment.

Recently it has become fashionable for clients to review their health care provider on various websites. Unfortunately, mental health professionals cannot respond to such comments and related errors because of confidentiality restrictions. If you encounter such reviews of us or any professional with whom you are working, please share it so we can discuss it and its potential impact on your therapy. Please do not rate her work with you while you are in treatment together on any of these websites. This is because it has a significant potential to damage our ability to work together.

I have received, reviewed and agree to this Electronic Communication Policy.

Client Signature

Date