

## Texas Limits of Confidentiality

In most cases, your written and signed authorization is required before information concerning your care or treatment can be disclosed. Below are some of the cases in which Texas law indicates that your signed authorization may not be required in order for Megan Gillespie, LCSW, PLLC to release information:

*Please initial next to each item to indicate your acknowledgement and understanding of these limitations, as explained by Megan Gillespie, LCSW.*

### **Probability of Imminent Physical Injury**

A mental health professional **may** disclose confidential information only to medical or law enforcement personnel if the professional determines that there is a probability of imminent physical injury by the client to the client or others, or there is a probability of immediate mental or emotional injury to the client. Texas law states that I am allowed to disclose this information to medical or law enforcement personnel for the purpose of obtaining emergency services, but I am not **required** to report this information.

       In addition, I request that you allow me, Megan Gillespie, LCSW, to contact your emergency contact if I have concerns regarding your physical and emotional well-being.

### **Abuse of Children and Vulnerable Adults**

If a client states that he or she has abused or neglected a child (or disabled or elderly adult), or if a minor client reports that he/she has been abused, I am required to report this information to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

### **Professional Misconduct**

Professional, including sexual, misconduct by a mental health care professional must be reported by other mental health care professionals. If you disclosed being victimized by another mental health care provider, I will report this information to the provider's licensing board. (Your identity may remain anonymous at your request.)

### **Court Orders**

I am required to release records of clients when a judge has issued a court order to do so.

### **Minors/Guardianship**

Parents or legal guardians of non-emancipated minor clients have the right to access the client's records, except in the case of minors who are seeking substance use services.

**\_\_\_\_\_ Other Provisions**

Insurance companies and other third-party payers are given information that they request regarding services to clients. Information that may be requested includes types of services, dates/times of services, diagnosis, treatment plan, description of impairment, progress of therapy, case notes, and summaries.

Information about clients may be disclosed in consultations with other professionals in order to provide the best possible treatment. In such cases, the name of the client, or any identifying information, is not disclosed. Clinical information about the client is discussed.