



Social Media Policy

This document outlines my office policies related to use of Social Media. Please take a moment to review this so that you may better understand how I may use the internet and how I will interact on social media. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to discuss these with me.

Defined

Per Merriam-Webster Dictionary, social media is defined as *“forms of electronic communication through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages and other content.”*

Privacy

As a mental health provider, client privacy is an important priority. It is essential for clients to understand that no form of communication has 100% privacy. Often times, mental health providers may use social media platforms to promote their business, publically provide articles on mental health issues, communicate with others, and network with other professionals.

Social media brings society an easy and convenient way to communicate, but with this benefit comes the possibility for compromised privacy and confidentiality.

Any form of communication may become part of your record.

Email & Cell Phone Calls/Texts

Purposed by Design Counseling, LLC will not discuss sensitive issues through email, telephone calls, or text messaging. These venues are not able to be guaranteed as confidential means to transfer information.

Conversations can be overheard, systems can be hacked, laptops/cell phones can be stolen. If you decide to communicate confidential or sensitive information through a phone call/text/email I will assume you have agreed to take the risk that the communication may be intercepted.

Email, text or phone calls are an excellent way to ask generic questions or make a change to your appointment. Please do not text, email or call in an emergency situation. In a crisis, please call 911 or go to your nearest emergency room. Although I frequently check these platforms, I cannot guarantee that I will see your message in a timely fashion.

Websites/Facebook/Twitter/Pinterest/LinkedIn

Purposed by Design Counseling, LLC does maintain a website and there is the possibility that other social media platforms may be used in the future. You are more than welcome to follow these sites, comment on posts, and read articles. Keep in mind that these are also inappropriate venues to communicate sensitive information. Also understand that 'friending' may expose your professional relationship with your counselor. I will not confirm or deny any professional relationship between myself and clients on social media but your presence on these sights may lead others to assume as it implies endorsement.

I will not accept friend requests, messages, or any other communication on my personal social media outlets from clients or former clients. This could compromise your confidentiality as well as creates an unwanted boundary issue. Do not take this personally, but remember that as a professional it is ethically not acceptable to enter into 'dual' or personal relationships.

Reviews/Testimonies

For ethical reasons, I do not encourage client reviews or testimonies. Numerous social media platforms offer this opportunity to individuals who 'like' or 'follow' a business's page. If you choose to do this I may delete the review/testimony in order to protect your privacy as a client or former client. It is not my intention to do this to avoid having negative reviews posted. Whether you post a positive or a negative review it implies that you are or have been a client of mine. Confidentiality reasons prohibit me from confirming or denying this relationship. If you are happy with your service please tell me during a session. If you are unhappy with your service please tell me during a session, and I will work to correct the issue if possible.

By signing below I am indicating that I have read this document and agree to its statements.

Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____