

EMAIL/TEXT MESSAGING CONSENT FORM

Printed Client's Name: _____

In order to communicate with you by email, we need to be sure you are aware of the privacy issues that could arise when we communicate this way, and to document that you are aware of these issues and agree to them. If you want to communicate with your Therapist through email and/or text messaging, please read and sign the form below.

Potential Risks of Using Text Messaging:

The Multicultural Therapy Center (TMTTC and/or The Center) may offer clients the ability to stay in touch via text messaging if the client chooses to do so. In the case of children under 18 years old, the parent or legal guardian must approve of email/text communication and sign this consent. Text messaging has a number of risks one should consider before making a final decision about its use. These include, but are not limited to the following:

- Text messages may not be received
- Text messages can be circulated, forwarded or stored in electronic files
- Text messages can be immediately sent worldwide and received by many intended and unintended recipients
- Senders can easily misaddress a text message
- Text messaging is easier to falsify than handwritten or signed forms
- Backup copies may exist even after sender and/or recipient has deleted their copies
- Text messages can be intercepted, altered, forwarded or used without ones knowledge or permission
- Text messages can be used as evidence in court
- Text messages can be lost in transmission

Potential Risks of Using Email:

The Multicultural Therapy Center (TMTTC and/or The Center) may offer clients the ability to stay in touch via email if the client chooses to do so. In the case of children under 18 years old, the parent or legal guardian must approach of email/text communication and sign this consent. Emailing has a number of risks that consumers should consider before using email. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Email messages may not be received

Email can be circulated, forwarded and stored in numerous paper and electronic files, in intended and unintended ways
Senders can easily misaddress an email message
Email messages can be immediately broadcast worldwide and received by many intended and unintended recipients
Email can be easier to falsify than handwritten or signed documents
Back-up copies of email may exist even after the sender or the recipient has deleted his or her copy
Email can be used as evidence in court
Email can be intercepted, altered, forwarded or used without authorization or detection
Email messages can be lost in transmission

Conditions for the Use of Text Messaging and/or Email:

Therapists at The Multicultural Therapy Center (TMTC and/or The Center) will use reasonable methods to protect the security and confidentiality of email information sent and received. However, because of the risks listed above, Therapists cannot guarantee the security and confidentiality of text or email communication, and is not responsible for improper disclosure of confidential information that is not caused by Therapist's intentional misconduct. Consent to use of texting or email includes agreement with the following terms:

Email and/or text message correspondence must be specifically requested and initiated by the consumer or the minor consumer's parent/guardian.

Your Therapist shall not email or text any Protected Health Information unless you specifically request him/her to do so.

Any email that you send that discusses your diagnosis or treatment constitutes informed consent to the information being transmitted.

Emails and/or text messages containing clinical content will become a part of your medical record.

Although Therapists will endeavor to read and respond promptly to an email or text message, Therapists cannot guarantee that any particular text or email will be read and responded to within any particular period of time. Thus, you should not use text messaging or email for medical emergencies or other time-sensitive matters.

You are responsible for informing the provider of any types of information that you do not want sent by text message and/or email.

Your email/text will not be forwarded to a third party without your expressed permission, (or as required by law) unless you have already signed a release for Therapist to communicate with a third party.

You may withdraw consent to communicate by text or email via written communication to the provider at any time.

If a life-threatening crisis should occur, you agree to contact a crisis hotline, call 911, or go to a hospital emergency room immediately.

You are responsible for protecting your password and access to your phone and/or email account and any text or email you send or receive from PSC to ensure your confidentiality. Your therapist cannot be held liable if there is a breach of confidentiality caused by a breach in your account security.

Client(s) Acknowledgment and Agreement

I acknowledge that I have read and fully understand this consent form. I understand the risks associated with email and/or text communication and consent to the conditions herein. Any questions I may have had were answered.

Client signature _____ Date: _____

Client Printed _____ Date: _____

Witness or Responsible Party's Signature _____

Date _____