

Center for Tranquil Transitions, LLC



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Limits of Confidentiality

Clinicians are dedicated to preserving the confidentiality and privacy of our clients. Contents of all therapy sessions are considered confidential. Both verbal information and written records about a client cannot be shared with another party without the written consent of the client or the client's legal guardian. Clinicians are required by the State of New Jersey to inform our clients of these limits on confidentiality:

- Duty to Warn and Protect
When a client discloses intentions or a plan to harm another person, the mental health professional is required to warn the intended victim and report this information to legal authorities. In cases in which the client discloses or implies a plan for suicide, the health care professional is required to notify legal authorities and make reasonable attempts to notify the family of the client.
- Court Proceedings
If the client introduces his mental condition as an element of claim or defense in a legal proceeding (except one involving child custody or adoption) the judge may order the clinician to disclose confidential client communications.

The following types of judicial cases may also require release of client records:
Child custody/adoption (whereby the judge may order the clinician to disclose confidential client communications), If the client initiates legal action (i.e. malpractice, criminal or license revocation) against the clinician, the clinician may disclose confidential client communications if disclosure may be necessary or relevant to the clinician's defense.

- Abuse of Children and Vulnerable Adults
If a client states or suggests that he or she is abusing a child (or a vulnerable adult) or has recently abused a child (or vulnerable adult), or a child (or vulnerable adult) is in danger of abuse, the mental health professional is required to report this information to the appropriate social service and/or legal authorities.

- Prenatal Exposure to Controlled Substances
Mental Health care professionals are required to report admitted prenatal exposure to controlled substances that are potentially harmful.
- Minors/Guardianship
Parents or legal guardians of non-emancipated minor clients have the right to access the clients' records.
- Insurance Providers (when applicable)
Insurance companies and other third-party payers are not given information that they request regarding services to clients. Information that may be requested includes, but is not limited to: types of service, dates/times of service, diagnosis, treatment plan, description of impairment, progress of therapy, case notes and summaries.
- Postmortem documentation
In the event of a clients passing, a judge may request records that may prove evidence of a clients mental health condition as claim of defense. Such records shall be released to the individual acting on behalf of the deceased client.

Special Notation:

If a judge compels the clinician to reveal confidential client information.

Aside from the above-listed exceptions, client information may only be shared upon express written consent of the client or parent/guardian.

I hereby acknowledge that I have read the above listed limits of confidentiality for the practice of Center for Tranquil Transitions, LLC. I understand that if I have any questions regarding the above, I can speak with my clinician. A copy of these policies can be provided to you upon request.

Client Signature _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Signature of Clinician _____ Date _____