

## INFORMED CONSENT FOR COURT INVOLVEMENT

The following document serves as an informed consent for all court related situations that may take places while participating in therapy. If you have any questions please contact Emily Murphy.

**COURT SERVICES:** Court services are not a standard part of therapy. Written reports for court use can be provided with two weeks prior notice without charge if you are an existing therapy client. Reports needed sooner than two weeks will incur a \$75 fee per hour needed to prepare the document. Any in person or phone coordination regarding court/legal situations will incur a \$100 per hour fee. Court testimony will be avoided as much as possible to better serve clients in a therapeutic capacity. If court testimony is unavoidable, or is in the best interest of the client, the rate for that service is **\$250.00 per hour for either 8am-12pm or 12pm-5pm. If a morning court appearance runs past 12pm then the full day will be billed.** Court cases often do not run on a predictable schedule, which requires the therapist's day to be cleared of cases. As a result, court testimony fees must cover the loss of revenue from cancelled cases. In addition, if the court case is outside of Polk county millage will be billed at the current federal millage rate. Insurance will not cover these charges. **By obtaining this service you agree to pay the agreed upon amount with \$500.00 up front before testimony and remaining balance within ten business days of testimony. Insurance will not cover these fees.** If you have other arrangements for payment, the therapist must be informed one week prior to the expected appearance date to allow time to verify these arrangements. Any and all testimony will follow the therapist's code of ethics and licensure and will not be altered to suit requests. The therapist's testimony will only relate to issues the therapist has had reported to them, interactions they have witnessed and concerns related to those reports and interactions. The therapist will not provide any opinion or recommendation on custody of a minor child as these questions are outside the scope of practice and should be addressed by a custody evaluator. Therapist testimony can damage the therapeutic alliance that is essential to therapeutic progress, by agreeing to these services you authorize that you understand this risk. Prior to testimony the client or legal guardian must sign and return to the therapist Release of Information forms for all people to be present at any court hearing.

By signing this agreement you:

- state that you have read and understand the information presented above
- hereby voluntarily consent to court contribution by Emily Murphy of Murphy Counseling and Therapy Services, LLC.
- will abide by the terms stated above

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Client Signature

Date

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Printed Name

Date of Birth

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Signature of legal guardian for minor child-

Date

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Therapist Signature

Date