

CLIENT INFORMATION/CONSENT

I have been a practicing Mental Health Counselor for about twenty years. As a counselor providing services to the public, I'm providing you with information on the counseling relationship and encourage you to ask any questions you might have. Once you sign this it will be considered an agreement between us.

APPOINTMENTS

You may call or email me at 850-792-5609, counseling@terryabell.com to make an appointment. If you are not able to make your appointment, please contact me as soon as possible to avoid a charge. Sessions usually last 50 minutes, although some sessions with minors may be shorter.

EMERGENCIES

Please call 211 for telephone counseling and 911 if you believe you are in immediate danger of hurting yourself or another.

PAYMENT

My fee is generally \$75-90.00 depending on your situation. I will work with you in regards to insurance reimbursement and we can talk about a sliding scale if circumstances require it. Generally you will be required to pay at the time of services and your insurance company may reimburse you. You can call your insurance company and get more information about your individual policy.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Communication between a counselor and client is confidential and protected by law, I can only share information with others with your written permission.

However, there are some exceptions:

1. Suspected abuse (physical, sexual, or neglect) of children, the aged, and the disabled: As licensed psychologists, counselors and social workers, we are required by law to report suspected abuse to the Florida Department of Children and Families.
2. If a client is thought to be at immediate risk for suicide, family and/or authorities will need to be notified in order to protect the individual. In instances where a client threatens homicide, we may have to notify the intended victim and police.

Terry Abell, Mental Health Counseling, LMHC
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3. Court-orders: We must release client records if a judge issues a court order compelling us to do so, although we always first offer alternatives to releasing complete records and do not do so without notifying the client of any request . We are ethically compelled to release the minimum amount of information.

CONSENT TO TREATMENT

Now that you have read this document, I encourage you to ask any questions you might have before signing. Signing this indicates you have read and understood this information and agree to abide by its terms during our professional relationship.

Client Signature

Witnessed by:

Terry Abell, Lic. Mental Health Counselor,