## Ann Palik, MA, MFT

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## LIMITS OF CONFIDENTIALITY

All of your communications with me are covered by the laws of confidentiality in the State of California except in the following circumstances:

- 1. If you intend to harm another person, I am legally required to warn the authorities and the person you intend to harm and/or his/her family.
- 2. If you pose a life-threatening danger to yourself, I have an ethical duty to take action to protect you, which may include warning the authorities and/or your family members.
- 3. If you disclose that you or someone you know has been, or is, involved in child abuse, elder abuse, or abuse of a disabled person (between the ages of 18 and 64), I am legally required to make a report to the appropriate authorities.
- 4. If your therapy costs are covered or partially covered by insurance, the insurance company will require, at a minimum, a diagnosis and the dates of service. Many insurance companies also require a written progress report and treatment plan. When you sign your insurance claim form, you are waiving your right to confidentiality and granting them access to your records.
- 5. If you become involved in legal matters that involve issues of your medical or mental health, you may be giving up some of your rights to confidentiality. In such a case, your medical records (which include mental health/therapy records) may be subpoenaed. Questions regarding the limits of confidentiality under those circumstances should be discussed with your attorney.

I have read and understand the limits of confidentiality as described above, and I agree that my therapy will be conducted within these safeguards and exceptions.

Client Name (please print)		
Signature of Client (or authorized representative)	Date	