

**Sandra Wilcox, Psychotherapist
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

The trust relationship between the counselor and the counselee is vital to the achievement of healthy outcomes in counseling. An important aspect of trust is the confidential nature of appointments and session content. Information, feelings, attitudes, and behavior shared during the session, or in related contacts, will be held confidential except (1) where prohibited by law, and (2) when instructed by the client to do otherwise.

As a professional counselor, Ms. Wilcox follows two basic rules of confidentiality:

RULE ONE

She will not disclose information or session content to any unauthorized person or group.

RULE TWO

She will disclose information or session content as seems necessary and appropriate when one or more of the following conditions exists:

1. authorized by the counselee,
2. subpoenaed by a court of law,
3. suspected potential or actual criminal activity, suspected potential or actual physical harm to the counselee by self or others or to other persons by the counselee,
4. suspected potential or actual abuse or neglect of a minor child,
5. suspected potential or actual abuse, neglect, or exploitation of an elderly or disabled person,
6. discerned to be essential to protect the health and welfare of the counselee or other persons or groups which may be adversely affected by the counselee's behavior.

I understand that Ms. Wilcox is required by law and/ or professional or personal ethics to break confidentiality as given above by reporting to an appropriate person or agency.

Signature

Date

CONFIDENTIALITY SUSPENDED BY TEXAS LAW

The Texas Family Code (section 34.02) provides that any person with a reasonable belief that a child's physical or mental health or welfare has been or may be adversely affected by abuse or neglect shall report that information to an appropriate agency. Failure to report is punishable as a misdemeanor.

The Texas Human Resources Code (section 48.036) provides that any person with a reasonable belief that an elderly or disabled person has been abused, exploited, or neglected shall report that information to the Department of Human Resources. Failure to report is punishable as a misdemeanor.

I have read and understand the above.

Signature

Date

Signature

Date