

Eric S. Strauss, Ph.D.

Information and Consent for Treatment

Confidentiality: Your treatment is covered under the provisions of state laws regarding confidentiality. What you say and the records I keep will be private between you and I, and can only be released with your written permission unless there is a court order for the release of your records.

There are some special circumstances when disclosure of personal information is required by law:

If there is a reasonable suspicion of the abuse or neglect of a child, dependent, or vulnerable adult, a report will be made to appropriate protective agencies.

If you present/threaten grave bodily harm to others or to property, I have a legal duty to warn those threatened and to contact law enforcement.

If you are actively suicidal or threaten significant bodily harm to yourself, I have a duty to obtain help from others to do what is necessary to keep you safe.

Disclosure may be required pursuant to legal proceedings. If you place your mental status at issue in litigation initiated by you, the defendant may have the right to obtain your therapy records.

What is said in individual sessions conducted as part of couples therapy can be discussed in the couples sessions. Records of couples therapy may not be released without the written authorization of both partners.

Telehealth: Because telepsychology sessions take place outside of a private office, there is the potential for other people to overhear sessions if you are not in a private place during the session. On my end, I will take reasonable steps to ensure your privacy. I am using the HIPPA-compliant platform doxy.me and our sessions are encrypted and secure. It is important for you to make sure you find a private place for our sessions where you will not be interrupted. You should participate in therapy only while in a room or area where other people are not present and cannot overhear the conversation. Also, please know that telepsychology sessions are not recorded in any way.

You should be aware that I can not guarantee the confidentiality of any information communicated by email or text. For that reason, I prefer to limit emails and texts to administrative matters, such as setting and changing appointments, billing matters, and other related issues.

Technology issues may impact telepsychology sessions. Please let me know if you are having any difficulty hearing or seeing me at any time. If our session is interrupted due to a technical problem, wait two minutes and then try to log back on to

doxy.me/dreicstrauss. If this doesn't work I will call you and discuss our options for continuing the session. If there is a technological failure and we are unable to continue with the session you will only be charged the prorated amount of actual session time.

Emergencies: In the event of an emergency you may call Dr. Strauss and leave a message, and he will return your call as soon as possible. If your call is after business hours Monday-Friday or on the weekend, or you cannot safely wait for a return call, you should contact the 24-hour Psychiatric Emergency Room at 704-444-2400 or call 911.

Cancellations and Missed Appointments: 24 hours notice is requested for cancellation. If you do not give 24 hours notice you may be charged in full for the appointment.

Fees: Fees are to be paid when service is rendered.

Questions and Concerns: At any point during therapy please mention to Dr. Strauss any questions and concerns you may have so he will know how best to assist you and most fully respond to your needs.

By signing this consent I acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to discuss my treatment with Dr. Strauss, have read and accept the above policies, and agree to and contract for treatment with him.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____