 Anna Hamrell LCSW INC

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 **Consent For Telehealth Treatment**

This Informed Consent for Telehealth contains important information focusing on providing healthcare services using the phone or the internet. Please read this carefully, and feel free to discuss with me any questions you may have. When you sign this document, it will represent an agreement between us.

Telehealth is a mode of delivering health care services, including psychotherapy, via communication technologies (e.g. Internet or phone) to facilitate diagnosis, consultation, treatment, education, care management, and self-management of a patient’s health care. I understand the following:

1. I have a right to confidentiality with regard to my treatment and related communications via Telehealth under the same laws that protect the confidentiality of my treatment information during in-person psychotherapy. The same mandatory and permissive exceptions to confidentiality outlined in the Consent For Treatment Form I received from my therapist also apply to my Telehealth services.

2. I understand that there are risks associated with participating in Telehealth including, but not limited to, the possibility, despite reasonable efforts and safeguards on the part of my therapist, that my psychotherapy sessions and transmission of my treatment information could be disrupted or distorted by technical failures and/or interrupted or accessed by unauthorized persons, and that the electronic storage of my treatment information could be accessed by unauthorized persons.

3. I understand that it is my responsibility for using a location that is private and free from distractions or intrusions. It is also important for me to protect the privacy of our session on my cell phone or other device. I will participate in therapy only while in a room or area where other people are not present and cannot overhear the conversation.

4. I understand that in some instances, Telehealth may not be as effective or provide the same results as in-person therapy. I understand that if my therapist believes I would be better served by in-person therapy, my therapist will discuss this with me and refer me to in-person services as needed. If such services are not possible because of distance or hardship, I will be referred to other therapists who can provide such

services.

**Additional information from the therapist pertaining to email/text messaging:**

For communication between sessions, I only use email communication and text messaging with your permission and only for administrative purposes unless we have made another agreement. This means that email exchanges and text messages with my office should be limited to administrative matters. This includes things like setting and changing appointments, billing matters, and other related issues. You should be aware that I cannot guarantee the confidentiality of any information communicated by email or text. Therefore, I will not discuss any clinical information by email or text and prefer that you do not either. Also, I do not regularly check my email or texts, and do not respond immediately, therefore, these methods **should not** be used if there is an emergency.

Treatment is most effective when clinical discussions occur at your regularly scheduled sessions. But if an urgent issue arises, you should feel free to attempt to reach me by phone. I will try to return your call within 24 hours except on weekends and holidays. If you are unable to reach me and feel that you cannot wait for me to return your call, and if you need immediate attention, contact your family physician or the nearest emergency room. If I will be unavailable for an extended time, I will provide you with the name of a colleague to contact in my absence, if necessary.

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**Informed Consent**

I have read and understand the information provided above regarding telehealth and understand that I may discuss any questions I may have with my therapist.

Your signature below indicates agreement with the terms and conditions above.

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Patient Date