

Carol Cochrane Bass, M.A., L.M.F.T. Santa Cruz Family Therapy, PC

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AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES and INFORMED CONSENT

This form is to clarify the legal and business portion of our relationship. Please read the following information carefully and feel free to discuss with me any questions or concerns you may have.

Confidentiality

Absolute privacy is the basic right of anyone who seeks counseling. All information shared is strictly confidential and cannot be released without your explicit, written consent. There are three important exceptions to client/therapist privilege. a) Any threats of murder or bodily harm to self, other or property of another; b) Any knowledge of child, elder or dependent abuse or neglect; c) A court order.

Minors above the age of 12 have the right to confidentiality unless they are perceived as harmful to themselves or others and can, under certain conditions, participate in therapy without parental consent.

With regard to confidentiality in couple and family therapy, if you or any other individual participating in treatment with you shared information with me individually, you agree that I have the right *but not the obligation* to share that information in the context of couple or family therapy. You understand that I will make such decisions in the context of sound clinical judgment, and considering what I believe is likely to be best for your family and our therapy.

Payment and Missed Appointments

Therapy sessions, unless otherwise arranged, last 50 minutes. I charge \$180 for an individual therapy session and \$220 for family or couples therapy sessions. Payment is due at the end of each appointment. Appointments that are canceled or broken without 24-hour notice will be charged the full fee. There is a late charge of \$25 for every 30 days that payment is not received. These charges are generally not reimbursed by insurance companies.

Phone Sessions

I am available for phone sessions as my free time permits. Any phone contact which is unrelated to the business portion of our relationship will be considered a phone session and the fee will be prorated according to your regular hourly fee.

Seeing You Outside of Therapy

If we happen to meet or see each other outside of my office, I will protect your confidentiality by not initiating contact.

