

Courage Counseling, PLLC

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CONSENT TO USE UNENCRYPTED E-MAIL

It is very important that you are aware that computer e-mail, texts, and e-fax communication, can be relatively easily accessed by unauthorized people and hence can compromise the privacy and confidentiality of such communication. E-mails, texts, and e-faxes, in particular, are vulnerable to such unauthorized access due to the fact that servers or communication companies may have unlimited and direct access to all e-mails, texts and e-faxes that go through them. While data on Priscilla Elliott's devices are encrypted, texts, e-mails and e-faxes are not. It is always a possibility that e-faxes, texts, and e-mail can be sent erroneously to the wrong address and computers. Unencrypted e-mail or texts provide as much privacy as a postcard. You should not communicate any information to your health care provider that you would not want to be included on a postcard that is sent through the Post Office. E-mail messages on your computer, your laptop, iPad, tablet, phone or other devices have inherent privacy risks – especially when your e-mail access is provided through your employer or when access to your e-mail messages is not password protected.

Priscilla Elliott's laptop is equipped with a firewall, a virus protection and a password. Priscilla Elliott's phone and tablet are also password protected and encrypted. Please, note that e-mails, faxes, and texts are all part of your clinical records.

Please notify Priscilla Elliott if you decide to avoid or limit, in any way, the use of e-mail, texts, cell phone calls, phone voice messages, or e-faxes. If you communicate confidential or private information via unencrypted e-mail, texts or e-fax or via phone messages, it will be assumed that you have evaluated the risks and made an informed decision, Priscilla Elliott will view it as your agreement to take the risk that such communication may be intercepted, and your desire to communicate on such matters will be honored. Please do not use texts, e-mail, voice mail, or faxes for emergencies.

Since privacy is even more difficult to protect with texting, I will not use or reply to texts.

Client's Name: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Client's Signature: _____

Date _____