

**James R. Parks, M.D. PLLC**  
**Child & Adolescent Psychiatry**

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## **Confidentiality Agreement**

As part of the physician-patient agreement, all of the information gathered about you and/or your child will be treated with great care. Legal and ethical considerations prevent our office from divulging information about you and/or your child, including information about whether you are a patient in our office, without your express written consent.

However, you should know before we begin our professional relationship that there are certain legal and ethical limits to confidentiality. In some circumstances, the physician is required to break confidentiality in order to protect you, your child, or others, as follows:

1. If a patient threatens grave bodily harm or death to another person, the physician may be required to inform appropriate legal authorities and the intended victim.
2. If a patient expresses a serious intent to grievously harm himself/herself, the physician may be required to notify family members and/or persons authorized to respond to such emergencies, in order to protect the patient from harm.
3. If the physician has good reason to suspect that a child is the victim of physical or sexual abuse, or a victim of neglect, the physician is required to report the abuse or neglect to the appropriate authority.
4. If a patient is being evaluated in response to a court order, the results of the evaluation will be revealed to the court.
5. If a court of law issues a court order signed by a judge, the physician is required to provide information (though we will restrict the information to that which is specifically requested in the court order).
6. If a judge determines that our discussions are not confidential, a judge may request specific information.
7. If requested by a court appointed attorney for a child involved in court proceedings.
8. If your insurance company (or other third-party payer) requests information including diagnosis, reports, medications, recommendations, and/or chart notes, this information must be provided.
9. If you fail to meet the financial obligations outlined in this form, I reserve the right to pursue collections or small claims court.
10. Please note that noncustodial parents can access a child's records, unless the parent's rights have been terminated. As a result, it is important for me to have a good understanding of the custody arrangements and parental rights at the start of services and if the circumstances change during the course of services.

Please be assured that I take your confidentiality very seriously, and I will make every effort to safeguard it.

**I understand the limits of confidentiality and their meanings and ramifications. My signature indicates I have received a copy of the office's Confidentiality Agreement.**

Signature of Client/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Client's name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_