

KAT LAWSON COUNSELING SERVICES

Kat Lawson, MA, LPC, NCC – Certified Couples and Family Therapist

PROFESSIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Counseling is conducted in various ways, depending on the counselor. As my client, you have the right to know my qualifications, methods, and mutual expectations of our professional relationship. The information presented here is provided to help you decide if my services are suitable for your needs at this time. *Please discuss any questions or concerns you may have before we begin our session.*

Credentials and Experience

I hold a Masters of Arts degree in Counseling where my concentration was in the area of Mental Health Counseling from University of Alabama at Birmingham. My undergraduate degree in Fine Arts was earned at Auburn University. I am licensed in the State of Alabama as a Licensed Professional Counselor. I am a National Certified Counselor.

Client rights and responsibility

You have the right to ask me to explain my reasons for making certain recommendations or for using certain procedures. You also have the right to refuse to follow these recommendations, and/or to terminate the counseling process at any time and for any reason. I have the right and ethical responsibility to terminate counseling and offer a referral to another counselor if you choose not to follow my recommendations. *Either of us may request a final session to discuss the reasons for termination, and to decide on an appropriate referral if desired.*

You have the right to confidentiality in the counseling relationship as described in the next section.

If you must cancel a scheduled appointment, please inform me no later than 24 hours before the appointment. *You will be responsible for payment for any missed or late cancelled appointments, except in the case of personal emergency.* Please be on time, as other clients may have appointments with me immediately following yours. Note that if you are late, the session will still end on time, and you will still be responsible for full payment.

Counselor responsibilities

As a Licensed Professional Counsellor I adhere to the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice approved by the Alabama Board of Examiners in Counseling and the American Counseling Association. These ethics and standards are intended to protect the welfare of both my clients and the community I serve. A primary provision of these is my responsibility to protect your right to privacy.

I must keep all details of our counseling relationship, including anything you tell me, in strict confidence, unless I have your expressed permission to inform or consult with someone else. I may consult with colleagues for supervision with the understanding that I will not disclose your name or other identifiable personal information. This code of confidentiality has only a few exceptions:

I must disclose information to a third party if I learn of *any potential abuse or neglect of a child or elderly person, or if I learn that you pose a threat of danger to yourself or any other person.*

Before making the disclosure, I must first determine that there is risk to your life or others which includes harm to self or others, abuse, or neglect in reporting communicable diseases which endanger others.

In addition, disclosure of information may be given by written agreement of the client.

Sessions typically last 50 minutes. Standard counseling fee is \$90 per session, \$120 for couples/family and is due at the time of each session. Sliding scale limit is \$50. If payment is arranged on a sliding scale, you will notify me if changes in income allow for the full standard \$90 fee.

Fees are payable at the beginning of each session by check, cash, or credit/debit card. Make checks payable to Kat Lawson, LPC and please have your check prepared in advance so that session time can be best utilized.

Please sign below indicating that you have read and understand all of the information in this document.

CLIENT SIGNATURE:

DATE: _____ / _____ / _____

COUNSELOR SIGNATURE:

DATE: _____ / _____ / _____