

Declarations of Practices and Procedures

Greg Guerin, MA, LPC-S

Guerin Counseling, LLC

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318 – 349 – 5590

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Welcome to my office. I look forward to working with you. In order that you have the opportunity to make an informed decision regarding services and your treatment, I want to introduce myself and provide you with information about the services I offer. Please read the information carefully and ask questions at any time. While I do collaborate with “Ark-La-Tex Mental Health Specialists,” I schedule my own appointments; should you need to change or cancel an appointment contact me directly at 318-349-5590.

Qualifications: I earned a Master of Arts degree in Counseling from Southwestern College in Santa Fe, NM in December of 2002. My undergraduate degree is in Chemistry from LSU-S (1989). I am registered in Louisiana with the Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners as a Licensed Professional Counselor, # 3196. Their contact information is: 8631 Summa Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, Telephone (225) 765-2515.

Counseling Relationship: I see counseling as a process of exploration, unfolding, and transformation occurring within the context of the therapeutic relationship that has formed between you, the client, and me.

Area of Expertise: I have a general practice having worked with children, adolescents, adults and their families with expertise in substance abuse counseling. I am a Board Approved Clinical Supervisor for Counselor Interns. I have been employed previously at The Adolescent Center, Brentwood Hospital and the Student Development and Counseling Center at LSU-Shreveport. I was supervised by Dr. Robert Minniear, LPC-S, LMFT, during my internship and was granted my license in 2007.

Fees and Office Procedures: My regular counseling session fee is \$100 for a fifty minute session. If you are referred by one of the local, public colleges (LSUS, BPCC or SUSLA) my rate is \$80 for a fifty minute session. ALL fees for services are the responsibility of the client unless: you are seeing me through The Private Practice of Shreveport for the Suboxone Program where group sessions are covered in the physician's fee; or Workers Compensation patients who are billed by Private Practice of Shreveport through Workers Compensation insurance. Group fees (other than Suboxone or Workers Compensation) are \$40.

I do not file insurance myself but I will give you a receipt with the appropriate codes and information that you need for a Health Insurance Claim Form (HICF). **No Show Policy:** *If you fail to give forty-eight hours' notice of cancellation you will be charged a fee of one half my regular rate for your first missed appointment and the full rate for appointments subsequently missed.*

I generally schedule appointments via phone and/or at the end of a session. Occasionally, I may offer appointment times by email or text; in these instances you must confirm the appointment by 6PM, unless another time is specified, in order to hold the time slot.

Services Offered: I approach counseling from a humanistic and existential perspective in the main, while including other perspectives, as appropriate, such as solution focused therapy, narrative therapy, and cognitive behavioral therapy; I generally keep Jungian and “depth” approaches as theoretical backdrop. When addressing spiritual concerns I will most likely use a Jungian approach. When treating substance abuse I generally adopt a motivational interviewing style. I work with

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individuals, groups, and families if appropriate, to address issues that may arise from internal and external conflicts, life adjustments and transitions.

Treatment of “Serious Mental Illness”: Research shows that treatment for a serious mental illness often works best when medication management and psychotherapy are combined. If you have been diagnosed previously or I determine that you meet the criteria for a “serious mental illness” I am required by state law to consult and collaborate with a practitioner who will determine the efficacy of medication management. If you already have a practitioner who prescribes psychiatric medications for you I will need a release signed so as to consult and collaborate with them.

If you do not have a physician you may see the receptionist to make an appointment with Dr. Jyoti or Dr. Orellana, or consult a physician of your choice.

Code of Conduct: As a Licensed Professional Counselor, I am required by state law to adhere to the Code of Conduct for practice that has been adopted by my licensing board, The Louisiana LPC Board of Examiners. A copy of the code of conduct is available upon request.

Confidentiality and Privileged Communication: Materials revealed in counseling will remain strictly confidential except for the following circumstances in accordance with state law where the therapist must take reasonable, personal action to inform the proper authorities:

- The client signs a written release of information indicating informed consent of such release;
- The client expresses intent to harm self or other;
- There is reasonable suspicion of abuse/neglect against a minor child, elderly person (60 or older), or a dependent adult;
- A court order is received directing the disclosure of information;
- This may include contagious, life-threatening diseases that have been confirmed by the therapist.

In the event of marriage or family counseling, material obtained from an adult client individually may be shared with the client’s spouse or other family members with the client’s written permission. Any material obtained from a minor client may be shared with the client’s parent or guardian. It is my policy to assert privileged communication on behalf of the client and the right to consult with the client if at all possible, except during an emergency, before mandated disclosure. I will endeavor to apprise clients of all mandated disclosures as conceivable. Counseling records are kept as a part of your counseling record. Third party documents will not be released to the client. If you have any question regarding privileged communication please ask me for clarification before you make a disclosure and, preferably, at the outset of our work together.

Emergency Situations: While I check my messages daily, it may be several hours or the next business day before I can respond. Should an emergency situation arise that requires immediate attention please call 911 or go to your nearest emergency room. Willis Knighton Behavioral Medicine can be reached at: (318) 212-5200 or Toll-Free: (800) 448-9562. In the event of my incapacitation the client or supervisee may contact Private Practice of Shreveport at (318- 861-3838) for any requests or release of their records.

Client responsibilities: You, the client, are a full partner in counseling. Your honesty and effort are essential to the success of your therapy. I encourage you to purchase a journal to bring with you to sessions. I routinely give homework assignments that can be completed in your journal. A journal is a useful place to record questions or concerns to bring to your session as well as take notes for yourself during your sessions.

Should you have concerns about counseling process while we work together, I expect you to share

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these with me so that I can make adjustments to serve you better. If the therapeutic process unfolds such that another mental health provider would better serve you, I will help you with the referral process. If you are currently receiving services from another mental health professional, I expect you to inform me of this and grant me permission to share information with this professional so that we may coordinate the services that we are providing.

Physical Health: Your physical health plays an import part in your emotional health and vice versa. The more complete history you give me, the better I will be able to help you. Please inform me of any medications being used, including illegal substances, at the time of the initial intake. It is highly recommended that you receive a complete physical examination if one has not been completed within the past year; this is important as conditions like hypothyroidism can mimic and/or exacerbate depression, for one example. Please keep your attending physician informed of your physical and emotional condition so that s/he may continue to work with you effectively, including your medication management should this apply.

Potential Counseling Risks: You should be aware that counseling poses certain, potential risks. In the course of working together, additional issues may arise that you were unconscious or unaware of when you entered into therapy. If this occurs, please feel free to share these new concerns with me. It is not uncommon to “discover” emotionally charged and/or difficult issues in the course of therapy. Also, it is not unusual for a client to begin new behaviors that may cause discomfort to others in their life. Getting a clear understanding of current issues is often more complex than it seems at first glance. Developing new understandings, thoughts, and behaviors related to your concerns can be intensive and take time to make routine in your daily life.

I have read the Declaration of Practices and Procedures of Greg Guerin, M.A., LPC-S and my signature below indicates my full, informed consent to services provided by Greg Guerin, M.A., LPC-S.

Client signature

Date

Greg Guerin, M.A., LPC - S

Date

Parent/Guardian Consent for Treatment of a Minor:

I, _____, give my permission for Greg Guerin, M.A., LPC-S to
(Name of parent or legal guardian)

conduct therapy with my _____, _____.
(Relationship) (Name of minor)

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

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Please Print Clearly

First Name, Middle Initial:	
Last Name:	
Preferred Name	
Mailing Address: Street	
Mailing Address: City, State, Zip	
Email Mail Address:	
Date of Birth:	
Contact Phone:	
Emergency Contact:	