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Social Media Policy

This document outlines our office's policies related to use of Social Media. If you have any questions about this policy, please ask your provider. As new technology develops and the Internet changes, there may be times when this policy is updated.

Friending

We do not accept friend or contact requests from current or former clients on any social networking site (Facebook, LinkedIn, etc.). This can compromise your confidentiality and may blur the boundaries of our professional relationship.

Fanning

Atlanta Psychological Services (APS) maintains a Facebook Page for our professional practice, to allow people to share blog posts, informational articles, and practice updates with other Facebook users. You are welcome to view the APS Facebook Page and read or share articles posted there, but we do not accept clients as Fans of this Page due to confidentiality concerns. In addition, the American Psychological Association's Ethics Code prohibits a psychologist from soliciting testimonials from clients. Note that you should be able to subscribe to the page via RSS without becoming a Fan and without creating a visible, public link to the APS Facebook Page. You are more than welcome to do this.

Following

On the APS Facebook page, we publish information, post and share news, and provide informational articles. Note that providers at APS do not follow clients as this can compromise your confidentiality and may blur the boundaries of our professional relationship. If you are receiving services at APS and there are things from your online life that you wish to share, please give this information to, and discuss it with, your provider in the office.

Texting, messaging, and other electronic interactions

Aside from fax or telephone communications, e-mail is the only electronic means of communication between you and your provider. See our policy on email and electronic communications more information regarding email interactions. Please do not use SMS (mobile phone text messaging) or messaging on Social Networking sites such as Twitter, Facebook, or LinkedIn to contact your provider. Do not use Wall postings, @replies, or other means of engaging with your provider, as this could compromise your confidentiality. Your provider will not respond to any electronic postings or other communications except for e-mail. If you need to contact your provider between sessions, the best way to do so is by calling our office.

Business review sites

You may see APS and/or your specific provider on various review sites. Many of these sites comb search engines for business listings and automatically add listings regardless of whether the business has added itself to the site. If you should find APS or other related listings on any of these sites, please know that such listings are NOT a request for a testimonial, rating, or endorsement from you as a client of APS (see above regarding the American Psychological Association).

Location-Based Services

If you used location-based services on your mobile phone, such as obtaining directions via GPS (e.g., any mapping application, such as Google Maps, WAZE, etc.), you may be compromising your confidentiality, as other could know you are coming to our office. "Checking in" on any electronic application (e.g., Facebook) could similarly compromise your confidentiality as a client at this office.