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Just a Few Words About Our Work Together...

Agreement for Services

With open arms, I welcome you to my private practice. Our weekly hour together is by mutual appointment, and I will do all I can to accommodate our busy schedules. Because most of you are in entertainment, finance, and various medical/health fields, I see my clients in the evenings and on weekends, as well as via phone, and the Internet. Please note, if you are late for an appointment, you will be charged the full hour and the session will end on time.

You may call me at any time using the above phone number. I try to respond to messages the same day, and, if you call or email late in the day or during the night, I return them the next day. Even if you write or call on a weekend, I will try to return the message ASAP, even if it is before "the next business day."

If you have a life-threatening emergency, please call 911. If you are in crisis and wish to speak with someone right away, please call the crisis hotline at 1.800.273.TALK (8255).

Fees

The fee for my service is \$_____ per individual fifty-minute therapy session; couple's rates and intake appointments may be higher – and longer. Fees are payable at the time services are rendered, and I accept cash, major credit cards (the preference by my clients with frequent flier miles) via PayPal, or check, which you can prepare prior to your arrival. Handling the business at the beginning of the session (instead of at the end) means a warmer closure.

If an alternative payment schedule is needed, I am happy to discuss that with you. While I do not bill insurance companies (partially to protect you), I can provide you with a receipt that you can submit to your insurance company, if you wish. Should you find that you are unable to continue paying for sex counseling, it is important for you to tell me, so that we can consider any options that may be available to you at that time.

Confidentiality

All communications between you and me are held in strict confidence, unless you provide written permission to release information about your treatment. If you want me to contact your former therapist, current physician, partner, etc, **nobody** can disclose your confidential information without your authorization.

There are, however, exceptions to confidentiality. I have to report instances of suspected child abuse or neglect, or suspected abuse of dependent adults and the elderly. I may be required to break confidentiality in situations when I have determined that a client presents a serious danger of physical violence to another person, or when clients are dangerous to themselves.

Communications between sex counselors and clients who are minors (under age eighteen) are confidential. However, parents and other guardians who provide authorization for their child's treatment are often involved in their treatment. Consequently, according to my professional best judgment, I may discuss the treatment progress of a minor client with the parent or caregiver. Clients who are minors and their parents are urged to discuss any questions or concerns they have on this topic with me.

Sex counselors and therapists consult with other professionals about their cases, to insure you optimal service. I omit **all** identifying information during such consultations and am bound by ethics to keep those conversations professional.

About the Sex Counseling Process

It is my intention to provide services that will assist you in reaching your sexual goals. Based on the information that you provide me and the specifics of your situation, I will offer recommendations about your treatment. I believe that I am in a 50/50 partnership with my clients throughout the sex counseling process. You have the right to disagree with my recommendations, and I will provide feedback to you regarding your progress, as I invite your discussion about that.

During your first visit, the *Intake Session*, we will discuss your concerns and goals for treatment. This session will help you and me decide on your optimal plan.

Due to the varying nature and severity of problems and the individuality of each client, I am unable to predict the length of your therapy or to guarantee a specific outcome or result. It is, however, the goal of any sex counselor to get a client in and out of the appointment book as fast as possible.

The length of your treatment and the timing of the eventual termination of your treatment depend on the specifics of your treatment goals, our plan of action,

and your dedication and progress. Together we'll discuss plans for termination as you reach your goals, though you may discontinue counseling at any time. If you or I decide that you are not benefiting from sex counseling, either of us may elect to discuss treatment alternatives that would be of more help to you. Examples of alternatives in sex counseling include changing your treatment plan, making referrals, or terminating sex counseling and coaching.

Sex Counselor Communications

I may need to communicate with you by phone, mail, or other means. Please indicate your preference by checking one of the choices below. Please be sure to tell me if you do not wish to be contacted at a particular time or place, or at a particular time of day.

- Eric may call my home number, which is: _____.
- Eric may call me on my cell, which is _____.
- Eric may call me at work, which is _____.
- Eric may send mail to me at my home address. (From the intake form)
- Eric may send mail to me at my work address. (From the intake form)
- Eric may email me at _____.

Hazards of Sex Counseling

In sex counseling, you risk learning unpleasant things about yourself and your relationships. For instance – and sometimes the greatest fear: there is always the case that sex counseling may not resolve your problem or that it is insufficient by itself to help you. Should this be your situation, I will explore alternative plans with you. My clients may try hard for a sexual or relationship resolution, and their partners don't contribute much or even at all; this can be frustrating. Likewise, some clients come in blaming their partners and then discover that they themselves are the roots of the problem; this can be eye opening and scary. In any case, I am here to welcome and assist you.

Your signature below indicates that you have read this agreement for services and that you understand its contents. You may withdraw this consent in writing and terminate treatment at any time. Please discuss any questions or concerns you have about it before you sign below.

Client Signature

Date