

Statement of Understanding Regarding Professional Services for Legal Matters

Unless otherwise arranged prior to the onset of counseling, providers at The Counseling Center typically deliver psychotherapy, testing, or psychiatric/medication consultation services. Requests for participation in legal action are discouraged after counseling or medication treatment has begun, but may be provided under limited circumstances and under a different fee schedule: \$200 per hour for a psychologist's outpatient services, \$250 per hour for court appearance or testimony including travel time, and \$500 per hour for psychiatric services or testimony. In other circumstances, your provider will encourage you to seek an independent consultation with a psychologist to address the psychological-legal or psychiatric-legal issues you are requesting assistance with. Because it is important for your provider, in most cases, to separate their role as therapist or medication consultant to you or your family from legal expert, the following are the policies of The Counseling Center and the fee structure regarding psychological services pertaining to legal matters:

1. If you were not specifically referred for forensic psychological or psychiatric services, your treating provider will determine, sometimes after consulting with other providers, if participation in the legal matters you are involved with will create an ethical dilemma for them regarding your care. He or she will carefully evaluate whether such involvement may not serve the best interest of the client (you or your family member), is outside his or her area of professional expertise or creates a bias which would adversely affect counseling, or possibly compromise your legal case. If so, the provider will refer you to the appropriate professional at The Counseling Center, or at another agency to obtain the requested service.
2. After careful consideration, if the provider agrees to become involved in providing information in legal proceedings, the following services may be offered if paid for in advance of the service being rendered. Please note that insurance does not cover any of the charges for legal consultation or information and the services below are billed in quarter hour increments at the rates established above unless otherwise specified below.
 - a. Telephone consultation, letters or reports pertaining to a provider's evaluation or treatment of a client;
 - b. Court appearance, deposition, or other meeting time, when requested by you, your attorney, or the opposing party's attorney, whether by subpoena or otherwise;
 - c. Preparation time for court, depositions, or other meetings;
 - d. Travel time to or from court, depositions, or other meetings;
 - e. Records requested for release to any party involved in legal proceedings are billed at the rate of \$15 for the first 30 pages or \$0.50 per page, whichever is greater.

(continued)

All fees for forensic services are payable prior to the completion of the requested task, or upon receipt of a subpoena or records. Alternate payment arrangements may be considered on a case by case basis by your provider.

Your signature below verifies that you have read **both** pages of this form and understand the circumstances under which forensic services may be provided, and the fee structure associated with forensic services at The Counseling Center whether voluntarily offered or by subpoena, and serves as certification that you agree to pay these fees for any and all forensic services provided.

Print Name of Client

Client (or Parent/Guardian) Signature

Client (or Parent/Guardian) Signature

Print Name Signed Above

Print Name Signed Above

Date

Date