

ADVISEMENT FOR COURT INVOLVEMENT

Professional Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists

1. \$2000.00 retainer will be required prior to appearance at court for a professional counselor or therapist. This retainer covers 3 hours and all prep time. Rescheduling without notice costs \$420 additional.
2. Clinician will only testify with a subpoena and a release of information. Subpoenas must be received by the clinician 7 days prior to the court hearing.
3. If records are requested, they must also be subpoenaed. Treatment updates or testimony are preferred, as therapy notes are for the provision of counseling services and may need explanation.
4. If there are third parties, such as attorneys, that need to be contacted, releases must be signed and dated. Consultations with attorneys and other court related professionals incur fees that can be charged by 15 minute increments. These fees are based on the counseling rate of the clinician.
5. If a written report is necessary, the preparation will cost the clinician's hourly rate and it must be requested 2 weeks prior to the court date. The report will be provided to all parties involved.
6. Clients and their families should realize that once the records and a clinician are subpoenaed, there is limited confidentiality. The use of a therapist in court can change the relationship of the therapist to the client.
7. By their signature, the retaining party acknowledges they have rights over the information to be divulged in court and that they understand the contents of this sheet.
8. Consent can be revoked at the time the subpoena is revoked and with a written communication at any time.

Supervised Visitation

1. There is no confidentiality in the SV process. Supervisors may fax records of each visit at the end of the month by request to each attorney.
2. For a supervisor of supervised visitation, a fact witness, a fee of \$500 will be required for court appearance. This covers 3 hours. A fee of \$100 is assessed for rescheduling. This is payable by the subpoenaing party.
3. Reports can be written at the hourly rate of the supervision.

Retaining Party

Date

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