Informed Consent for Video Telepsychological Services

This document will describe the limitations and innovative nature of using electronic communications in the provision of psychology services. Confidentiality still applies for telepsychology services. However, there are potential benefits and risks of video-conferencing (e.g. limits to patient confidentiality) that differ from in-person sessions. Our office will make reasonable efforts to protect and maintain the confidentially relating to our patients.

It is important to use a secure internet connection rather than public/free Wi-Fi. Our office is responsible for explaining how to use our video-conferencing platform. You will need access to equipment that allows for this communication. It is important to be in a quiet, private space that is free of distractions (including cell phone or other devices) during the session. Video-conferencing has the potential to end unexpectedly or to have degraded picture/sound due to technical difficulties which are out of our control.

It is important to be on time for the session. If it is necessary to cancel or change your appointment, it is important to notify the office through [means of notifying office] by [amount of time in advance].

Telepsychology is not appropriate for every person and for every problem. Thus, it is possible that the psychologist will determine that, due to certain circumstances, telepsychology is no longer appropriate.

The video sessions will not be recorded by either the provider or the client. Thus, the conversation from the sessions is not stored, and no one will have access to it.

It is necessary to have a back-up plan in case of technical problems or emergent circumstances. For this reason, our office needs to have your [telephone number, email address, etc.] to restart the session or to reschedule it. There also needs to be a safety plan, and so our office needs your address, at least one emergency contact, and the closest emergency room to your location, in the event of a crisis situation. There is an Information Form that must be filled out prior to the first session to provide this information.

Our office will provide you with alternative ways for you to get in touch with us in case of emergency or technical problems. These are [specifics].

[If there are other electronic communications received from the client, the form and manner in which the licensee will respond to those messages must be specified.]

[If electronic communications are stored, the manner in which the licensee stores such communications must be specified. Any other parties who may have access to communications between the patient and the licensee must be specified, and the specific methods for ensuring that electronic communications are directed only to the licensee or

supervisee must be specified. Document that when the licensee disposes of electronic equipment, they will ensure that confidential communications cannot be recovered.]

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 Signature

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 Date