

Restoring Hope Counseling Center

Of Southern California

dba.rhmsc a 501(c) 3 non-profit corp.

STEVEN CAGAN LMFT . E.D. mfc#45333

739 Paseo Camarillo Suite #63 Camarillo, CA 93010

LIMITS OF CONFIDENTIALITY

The cornerstone of psychotherapy is confidentiality. Everything you say will be kept confidential, unless you sign specific written permission. No one will know why you came here or what was said, unless YOU choose to reveal that information.

THERE ARE SOME EXCEPTIONS WHICH ARE IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND

1. Under provisions of the CA Penal Code, psychotherapists are required to report any suspected child abuse [either current or past] to local child protective or law enforcement official. The CA Penal Code defines child abuse as: “*The willful cruelty to or the unjustifiable punishment of a child, or endangering the life or health of a child, including sexual molestation.*”
2. Under the CA Welfare and Institutions Code, abuse of elder individuals [aged 65+] and dependent adults [aged 18+ with physical or mental handicaps], including: physical abuse, cruel or inhuman corporal punishment, unreasonable physical constraint or prolonged deprivation of food or water, must be reported.
3. The law also requires notification to the police and the intended victim if it is believed you actually intend to do physical harm to someone else.
4. If it is believed you truly intend to harm yourself, every effort to insure your safety will be made. If your safety cannot be insured, it is required that the police and/or the hospital emergency team and a member of your family be notified.

It is important for you to understand and accept these exceptions to confidentiality. If you have any concerns or questions about what you have just read, do not hesitate to ask for clarification.

By signing this document, I confirm that I understand and accept these exceptions to confidentiality.

Client's Signature: _____ Date: _____