

Sexuality Consultants and Support Services Manitoba, Inc. 566 Corydon Ave. Winnipeg, MB R3L 0P2

Phone: 204-471-8771 Fax: 204-808-1613

### INFORMED CONSENT FOR PHONE AND ONLINE VIDEO SESSIONS

This document outlines some special considerations related to tele and online sessions, or the provision of sex therapy services remotely using telecommunications technologies such as videoconferencing or telephone. Please review this information carefully.

## Considerations related to Confidentiality

Because our session(s) will take place outside of my private office, there is the potential that others may overhear our conversation. On my end, I will take reasonable steps to ensure your privacy, such as only speaking with you while I am alone and in my private space or professional office and ensuring that I will not be interrupted during our session and others will not be able to overhear me.

It is also important for you to protect the privacy of our session by locating yourself in a space where others are not present, you will not be interrupted or disturbed, and where others are not likely to overhear our conversation. When possible, use of headphones is advised as this will reduce the amount of conversation that could be overheard by others.

Please note that the nature of electronic communications technology is such that, although highly unlikely, I cannot absolutely guarantee that our communications will be kept confidential or that others may not gain access to our communications. At this time, communication via telephone offers the greatest confidentiality next to in-person sessions.

If, during our session, you determine that you are no longer free to talk openly to me but are unable to say so, please use the code word "NORTH STAR." If I hear you say these words, I will understand that you are not able to talk freely.

### Considerations related to Safety

Because we will not be in the same physical space, I am limited in terms of the steps I can take to respond to emergencies and unsafe situations. Because of this, I will begin our session by:

- Asking you to tell me where you are located, including the street address and your specific location within the home;
- Asking you to let me know who else is in at the same location at that time;
- Asking you to identify an emergency contact person who is near to your location and who I can contact in the case of a crisis or emergency as well as a phone number at which I can contact this person. I will ask you to consent to my contacting this person should a crisis or emergency arise.

## INFORMED CONSENT FOR PHONE AND ONLINE VIDEO SESSIONS (continued)

If our session is interrupted for any reason and you are having an emergency or crisis, do not call me back, but instead, call 911 or other emergency services (Adult Mobile Crisis Service at 204-940-1781; Clinic 24 Hour Crisis Line at 204-786-8686) or go to your nearest hospital emergency room. Call or text me back at 204-471-8771 after you have obtained emergency services and leave me a message indicating the same and I will call you back. If I don't hear from you, I may contact your emergency contact person.

If, during our session, you are in an unsafe situation but feel you are not able to speak freely about this, please use the code word "RED STAR." If I hear you say these words, I will understand that you are not safe and are unable to talk freely to me. In this case, I may contact your emergency contact person.

#### Considerations related to Unexpected Interruptions

If during our session, we are interrupted due to a breakdown in technology, accidental disconnection, or some other non-emergency circumstance, I will wait 30 seconds then attempt to reconnect with you.

If you do not receive a call back within 30 seconds to 1 minute, you can attempt to reconnect with me, and leave a message and/or send me an email at <u>info@reecemalone.com</u>.

### Considerations related to Payment of Fees

The same fee rates apply for tele or video sessions as for in person sessions. Fees can be paid by eTransfer sent to <u>info@reecemalone.com</u> or via credit card which will require you to provide me with your card # and expiration date for manual key in.

Once I have received verification of payment, I will send you a receipt by email or per your preference.

#### Considerations related to Record Keeping

I want to ensure you that our sessions will not be recorded by me in any way, unless we mutually agree to do so before hand. Recording sessions require mutual agreement and signed consent.

I will maintain a record of our session, in the form of written client contact notes, in the same way that I maintain records of in-person sessions in accord with my policies.

# Please indicate that you have read, understood, and accept the policies and information provided above by signing below\*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Date:		
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\* If you do not have a scanner, I accept a photo of the document signed. If you do not have a printer, please email me at <u>info@reecemalone.com</u> that you have read and understood the **INFORMED CONSENT FOR PHONE AND ONLINE VIDEO SESSIONS** policy.