

## **Practice Policies**

It is, and always has been, my policy to provide psychotherapeutic care and forensic (court-related) services to be best of my ability in every single case. I place great value on competence and boundaries. I do not practice outside my area of expertise or assume conflicting roles in a case. I abide by the ethical standards promulgated by the American Psychiatric Association and the Association of Family Conciliation Courts.

With regard to psychotherapy, I take my patient's right to confidentiality very seriously. I do not release information regarding anyone's treatment without written authorization except when required to do so by law. I have listed those circumstances that require me to violate patient confidentiality in a document on this website entitled "Confidentiality".

With regard to court evaluations, those people I evaluate do not have the same right to confidentiality as would a patient, although I do not release information to anyone who is not professionally involved in the case without written authorization. Furthermore, I adhere to ethical standards promulgated by the American Association of Psychiatry and the Law. I provide thorough and objective evaluations, have never taken a bribe, and never will.

Since it is now common practice for a patient (or a person undergoing an evaluation in the context of a legal matter) to communicate with me via email, it is important that you understand that using this form of communication has risks. To that end, I have provided an "Email Privacy Statement".

It is possible that a patient (or a person I've evaluated) needs a copy of his or her records. I have included my policy regarding the release of records in a document entitled "Records Protocol".

Finally, I have assembled policies pertaining to my fee. The hourly rate and payment arrangements vary from service to service, and so I have not included them on this website. This is important information, however, so please feel free to contact me for details.