**INFORMED CONSENT FOR IN-PERSON SERVICES DURING COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS**

This document contains important information about our decision (yours and mine) to resume in-person services in light of the COVID-19 public health crisis. Please read this carefully and let me know if you have any questions. When you sign this document, it will be an official agreement between us.

**Decision to Meet Face-to-Face**

We have agreed to meet in person for some or all future sessions. If there is a resurgence of the pandemic or if other health concerns arise, however, I may require that we meet via telehealth. If you have concerns about meeting through telehealth, we will talk about it first and try to address any issues. You understand that, if I believe it is necessary, I may determine that we return to telehealth for everyone’s well-being.

If you decide at any time that you would feel safer staying with, or returning to, telehealth services, I will respect that decision, as long as it is feasible and clinically appropriate.Reimbursement for telehealth services, however, is also determined by the insurance companies and applicable law, so that is an issue we may also need to discuss.

**Risks of Opting for In-Person Services**

You understand that by coming to the office, you are assuming the risk of exposure to the coronavirus (or other public health risk). This risk may increase if you travel by public transportation, cab, or ridesharing service.

**Your Responsibility to Minimize Your Exposure *(\*Please initial each line\*)***

To obtain services in person, you agree to take certain precautions which will help keep everyone (you, me, and our families, [my other staff] and other patients) safer from exposure, sickness and possible death. If you do not adhere to these safeguards, it may result in our starting / returning to a telehealth arrangement. Initial each to indicate that you understand and agree to these actions:

* You will only keep your in-person appointment if you are symptom free. \_\_\_
* You will take your temperature before coming to each appointment. If it is elevated (100 Fahrenheit or more), or if you have other symptoms of the coronavirus, you agree to cancel the appointment or proceed using telehealth. If you wish to cancel for this reason, I won’t charge you our normal cancellation fee. \_\_
* You will wait in your car or outside [or in a designated safer waiting area] until no earlier than 5 minutes before our appointment time. \_\_\_
* You will wash your hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when you enter the building. \_\_\_
* You will adhere to the safe distancing precautions we have set up in the waiting room and testing/therapy room. For example, you won’t move chairs or sit where we have signs asking you not to sit.\_\_\_
* You will keep a distance of 6 feet and there will be no physical contact (e.g. no shaking hands) with me [or staff]. \_\_\_
* You will try not to touch your face or eyes with your hands. If you do, you will immediately wash or sanitize your hands. \_\_\_
* If you are bringing your child, you will make sure that your child follows all of these sanitation and distancing protocols. \_\_\_
* You will take steps between appointments to minimize your exposure to COVID. \_\_\_
* If you have a job that exposes you to other people who are infected, you will immediately let me [and my staff] know. \_\_\_
* If your commute or other responsibilities or activities put you in close contact with others (beyond your family), you will let me [and my staff] know. \_\_\_
* If a resident of your home tests positive for the infection, you will immediately let me [and my staff] know and we will then [begin] resume treatment via telehealth.\_\_\_

I may change the above precautions if additional local, state or federal orders or guidelines are published. If that happens, we will talk about any necessary changes.

**My Commitment to Minimize Exposure**

My practice has taken steps to reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus within the office and we have posted our efforts on our website and in the office. Please let me know if you have questions about these efforts.

**If You or I Are Sick**

You understand that I am committed to keeping you, me, [my staff] and all of our families safe from the spread of this virus. If you show up for an appointment and I [or my office staff] believe that you have a fever or other symptoms, or believe you have been exposed, I will have to require you to leave the office immediately. We can follow up with services by telehealth as appropriate.

If I [or my staff] test positive for the coronavirus, I will notify you so that you can take appropriate precautions.

**Your Confidentiality in the Case of Infection**

If you have tested positive for the coronavirus, I may be required to notify local health authorities that you have been in the office. If I have to report this, I will only provide the minimum information necessary for their data collection and will not go into any details about the reason(s) for our visits. By signing this form, you are agreeing that I may do so without an additional signed release.

**Informed Consent**

This agreement supplements the general informed consent/business agreement that we agreed to at the start of our work together.

I acknowledge the contagious nature of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 and that the CDC and many other public health authorities still recommend practicing social distancing.

I further acknowledge that Kalm Counseling and Wellness, LLC has put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of the Coronavirus/COVID-19.

I further acknowledge that Kalm Counseling and Wellness, LLC cannot guarantee that I will not become infected with the Coronavirus/Covid-19. I understand that the risk of becoming exposed to and/or infected by the Coronavirus/COVID-19 may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself and others, including, but not limited to, staff, and other clients and their families.

I voluntarily seek services provided by Kalm Counseling and Wellness, LLC and acknowledge that I am increasing my risk to exposure to the Coronavirus/COVID-19. I acknowledge that I must comply with all set procedures to reduce the spread while attending my appointment.

I attest that:
\* I am not experiencing any symptom of illness such as cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell.
\* I have not traveled internationally within the last 14 days.
\* I have not traveled to a highly impacted area within the United States of America in the last 14 days.
\* I do not believe I have been exposed to someone with a suspected and/or confirmed case of the Coronavirus/COVID-19.
\* I have not been diagnosed with Coronavirus/Covid-19 and not yet cleared as non-contagious by state or local public health authorities.
\* I am following all CDC recommended guidelines as much as possible and limiting my exposure to the Coronavirus/COVID-19.

I hereby release and agree to hold Kalm Counseling and Wellness, LLC harmless from, and waive on behalf of myself, my heirs, and any personal representatives any and all causes of action, claims, demands, damages, costs, expenses and compensation for damage or loss to myself and/or property that may be caused by any act, or failure to act of the salon, or that may otherwise arise in any way in connection with any services received from Kalm Counseling and Wellness, LLC. I understand that this release discharges Kalm Counseling and Wellness, LLC from any liability or claim that I, my heirs, or any personal representatives may have with respect to any bodily injury, illness, death, medical treatment, or property damage that may arise from, or in connection to, any services received from Kalm Counseling and Wellness, LLC. This liability waiver and release extends to the salon together with all owners, partners, and employees.

***Your signature below shows that you agree to these terms and conditions.***

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Patient/Client Date

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LMHC Date