# Social Media/Technology Agreement

This document outlines our office policies related to the use of Social Media, how we conduct ourselves on the Internet as mental health professionals and how you can expect us to respond to various interactions that may occur between us on the Internet.

# Friending

We do not accept friend or contact requests from current or former clients on any social networking site (Facebook, LinkedIn, etc). This is to protect confidentiality, our respective privacy and appropriate boundaries of our therapeutic relationship.

## Interacting

Please do not use messaging on Social Networking sites such as Twitter, Facebook, or LinkedIn to contact us, in order to protect your confidentiality. These sights are not secure. It may also create the possibility that these exchanges become a part of your legal medical record and will need to be documented and archived in your chart.

If you need to contact me between sessions, the best way to do so is by phone, or text, if that is the method of appointment reminder you have chosen. These communications will be limited to scheduling, as they are not secure either. If you are in crisis, you may request an earlier appointment, or if you are in extreme crisis/in danger, please call 911 or go to the nearest ER.

## **Use of Search Engines**

It is NOT a regular part of our practice to search for clients on Google or Facebook or other search engines. Extremely rare exceptions may be made during times of crisis. If we have a reason to suspect that you are in danger and you have not been in touch with us via our usual means (coming to appointments, phone, or email) there might be an instance in which using a search engine (to find you, find someone close to you, or to check on your recent status updates) becomes necessary as part of ensuring your welfare. These are unusual situations and if we ever resort to such means, we will fully document it and discuss it with you when we next meet.

## **Business Review Sites**

You may find our psychology practice on sites such as Yelp, Healthgrades, Yahoo Local, Bing, or other places which list businesses, that include forums in which users rate their providers and add reviews. If you should find our listing on any of these sites, please know that our listing is NOT a request for a testimonial, rating, or endorsement from you as our client. If you choose to leave a review, to protect your confidentiality, we will not respond.

If you do choose to write something on a business review site, we hope you will keep in mind that you may be sharing personally revealing information in a public forum. We urge you to create a pseudonym that is not linked to your regular email address or friend networks for your own privacy and protection.

Client Signature

Date: