TS Counseling, PLLC

Taraleigh Stemler, MMFT

2819 Gallatin Pike

Nashville, TN 37216

**Social Media and Technology Policy**

**Social Media**

I do not accept friend requests from current or recent former clients on any social networking site. I believe that adding clients as friends on these sites can compromise client confidentiality and client’s respective privacy. It may also blur the boundaries of the therapeutic relationship.

**Email**

E-mail is not completely secure or confidential. For those who choose to communicate with me by email, be aware that all emails are retained in the logs of your and my Internet service providers. While it is unlikely that someone will be looking at these logs, they are, in theory, available to be read by the system administrator(s) of the Internet service provider. E-mails I receive from clients and former clients along with any responses that are related to treatment and diagnosis may be printed out and kept in respective treatment records.

**Text**

Though clients do have my number for the purpose of scheduling appointments, I do not text my clients about personal matters than can be discussed during sessions. Phone service providers are not HIPAA compliant. Therefore, I cannot guarantee that any text messages including personal information (matters that can be discussed during session) will be protected and kept confidential. If the client decides to text me about information that can be discussed in session, the client places their confidentiality at risk.

**Phone Call**

For scheduling purposes, the client may contact my cell phone, 615-838-1999. I will make a log of the date, time, and purpose of client’s call in the client file during the following session. I do not provide therapy services via phone calls. Therefore, any call related to matters discussed in session will be reviewed and discussed in the following scheduled appointment with the client.

**By signing this document, I have read the above policy put in place by Taraleigh Stemler Counseling regarding social media and technology usage.**

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

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_