

DUTY TO WARN

The counselor will keep material discussed in counseling sessions completely confidential. There are two exceptions: First, if the client faces legal proceedings and the records are subpoenaed, the counselor is required by law to surrender the documents. Second, the counselor is legally and ethically obligated and has a duty to warn the appropriate officials if a client intends to take harmful, dangerous, or criminal action against the client or others. Likewise, if someone else is committing a criminal act against the client who is a child or against the clients' child, the counselor is legally and ethically obligated and has a duty to inform the appropriate officials.

Before taking such action, the counselor may attempt to resolve the issue with the client to prevent such a breach in confidentiality. However, the counselor may deem it necessary and in the endangered party's best interest to do so without forewarning the client.

Please sign the following statement of understanding:

I have read the above and understand the legal and ethical necessity of such a potential breach in confidentiality.

Client signature

date

Client signature

date