



INFORMED CONSENT FOR ADULT CLINICAL EVALUATION SERVICES

Provider: Piper Harris, LPC 016231

Georgia Licensed Professional Counselor

Untangled Mind™, LLC

PURPOSE OF THIS AGREEMENT

This document provides information about adult clinical evaluation services offered by Untangled Mind and explains the nature and limitations of the evaluation, use of assessment instruments, confidentiality, release of information, telehealth services, fees, records, and the respective responsibilities of the evaluator and the individual being evaluated. Please review this document carefully before beginning the evaluation. By signing below, you acknowledge that you understand the nature and purpose of the evaluation and voluntarily consent to participate.

NATURE AND PURPOSE OF THE EVALUATION

A clinical evaluation is a focused professional assessment intended to answer a specific clinical or referral question. Evaluations may be requested by the individual being evaluated or by a third party, including an attorney, court, probation officer, employer, agency, or other referring professional.

Depending upon the purpose of the evaluation, the process may include:

- Review of intake and background information
- Standardized clinical assessment instruments
- Clinical interview
- Review of relevant records or collateral documentation
- Clinical interpretation of available information
- Diagnostic impressions when clinically appropriate
- Written findings and recommendations
- Completion of documentation requested by a referring party when appropriate

The specific assessment instruments and procedures used are selected according to the referral question, available information, clinical relevance, and professional judgment of the evaluator.

EVALUATION IS NOT PSYCHOTHERAPY

Clinical evaluation services are separate from psychotherapy. The purpose of the relationship is to conduct an independent clinical evaluation and provide professional findings and recommendations. Participation in an evaluation does not establish an ongoing psychotherapy relationship with Untangled Mind or Piper Harris, LPC.



The evaluator's responsibility is to provide an objective professional opinion based upon the information available. The evaluator is not acting as an advocate for the individual being evaluated, an attorney, a court, an employer, or another referring party. The evaluator cannot guarantee that the findings or recommendations will support the position or outcome desired by the individual being evaluated or by the party requesting the evaluation.

If psychotherapy or another clinical service is recommended following the evaluation, appropriate treatment options or referrals may be discussed. Completion of an evaluation does not guarantee acceptance for ongoing treatment at Untangled Mind.

SCOPE OF THE EVALUATION

Untangled Mind provides focused adult clinical evaluations within the scope of professional counseling practice. These services are not psychological testing or comprehensive psychological, neuropsychological, competency, custody, disability, fitness-for-duty, or violence-risk evaluations. If the referral question or information obtained during the evaluation indicates that an assessment outside the evaluator's professional scope or competence is required, the evaluation may be discontinued, and referral to an appropriately qualified professional may be recommended.

ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENTS

Standardized clinical assessment instruments may be used as one component of the evaluation. Assessment instruments are selected based upon their relevance to the referral question, appropriateness for the individual being evaluated, available evidence regarding reliability and validity, and the evaluator's professional training and competence.

Assessment scores are not interpreted in isolation. Findings and recommendations may incorporate multiple sources of information, including standardized assessment results, clinical interview, behavioral observations, available records, referral information, and other relevant clinical data. No individual assessment score independently establishes a diagnosis, determines legal responsibility, or guarantees a particular recommendation.

You have the right to receive information regarding the results of assessments administered, their interpretation, and the basis for conclusions or recommendations.

ACCURACY AND COMPLETENESS OF INFORMATION

The validity and usefulness of an evaluation depend substantially upon the accuracy and completeness of the information provided. You agree to answer evaluation questions and



assessment instruments as accurately and completely as possible and to provide relevant information requested by the evaluator.

Intentionally false, misleading, incomplete, inconsistent, or omitted information may affect the reliability of the evaluation and may be documented in the evaluator's findings when clinically relevant. The evaluator may decline to provide a definitive opinion or recommendation when available information is insufficient, contradictory, unreliable, or otherwise inadequate to support a professional conclusion.

RECORDS AND COLLATERAL INFORMATION

Depending upon the referral question, you may be asked to provide relevant documentation. This may include:

- Court or probation documentation
- Attorney referral information
- Police or incident reports
- Prior treatment or evaluation records
- Employment-related referral documentation
- Other information relevant to the purpose of the evaluation

Information obtained from records or other sources may be considered together with information you provide. When appropriate and with required authorization, the evaluator may communicate with a referring professional or other identified collateral source to clarify the referral question or obtain information relevant to the evaluation. The evaluator cannot independently verify every statement contained in records, collateral information, or information provided by the person being evaluated. Conclusions will therefore be based upon the information reasonably available at the time the evaluation is completed.

THIRD-PARTY REQUESTED EVALUATIONS

When an evaluation has been requested by an attorney, court, probation officer, employer, agency, or another third party, it is important to understand that the evaluation may be intended for use outside of a traditional healthcare setting.

Before information is voluntarily released, you will be informed of the information to be disclosed and the person or entity to whom it will be disclosed, and appropriate written authorization will be obtained when required.

When applicable, the evaluation report may contain assessment results, relevant history, clinical findings, diagnostic impressions, conclusions, and recommendations. Once information has been



lawfully released to an authorized third party, Untangled Mind cannot control how that party subsequently uses, stores, rediscloses, or relies upon the information. You are responsible for determining whether an evaluation performed by a Georgia Licensed Professional Counselor satisfies the requirements of the court, attorney, probation department, employer, agency, or other entity requesting the evaluation. Untangled Mind does not guarantee that any third party will accept the evaluation.

RELEASE OF EVALUATION RESULTS

Your evaluation report and related clinical information are confidential and will not automatically be provided to an attorney, court, probation officer, employer, family member, referring professional, or other third party simply because that person or organization requested, referred, scheduled, or paid for the evaluation.

If you would like Untangled Mind to send your completed evaluation or other information directly to another individual or organization, you must complete a separate **Authorization for Release of Information (ROI)** identifying the specific person or organization authorized to receive the information. The ROI must be completed before the evaluation or related records can be released to the identified recipient, except when disclosure is otherwise permitted or required by law.

You may choose to receive the completed evaluation yourself without authorizing Untangled Mind to send it to another party. If you subsequently provide your evaluation to another person or organization, Untangled Mind cannot control how that information is used, maintained, or further disclosed. When completing an ROI, you may be asked to specify what information may be released, the purpose of the disclosure, the individual or organization authorized to receive it, and the period for which the authorization remains valid. Authorization to release information may generally be revoked in writing, except to the extent that action has already been taken in reliance upon the authorization or as otherwise provided by law. When an evaluation has been requested in connection with a legal, probationary, employment, or other third-party matter, you are responsible for determining whether the requesting party requires the evaluation to be sent directly by Untangled Mind rather than submitted by you.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Information obtained during the professional relationship is maintained confidentially in accordance with applicable law and professional requirements. Confidentiality is not absolute. Information may be disclosed when permitted or required by law, including circumstances involving:



- Written authorization from the client
- Clear and imminent danger to the client or another person
- Suspected abuse or neglect when reporting is required by law
- A valid legal requirement compelling disclosure
- Defense of the evaluator in a civil, criminal, licensing, or disciplinary proceeding arising from the professional services provided
- Professional consultation or supervision consistent with applicable ethical requirements

Legal and court-related evaluations may present additional limits to confidentiality because records, reports, or testimony may become the subject of legal process. If you have questions regarding how an evaluation may affect your legal interests, you should discuss those questions with your attorney. Untangled Mind and Piper Harris, LPC do not provide legal advice.

COURT ORDERS, SUBPOENAS, AND TESTIMONY

Participation in an evaluation may result in the creation of records that could become relevant to a legal proceeding. A subpoena, court order, or other legal demand for records or testimony will be handled according to applicable law and professional requirements. Signing this informed consent does not itself constitute authorization for unrestricted release of your records to any person or entity. If testimony, deposition, affidavit preparation, extensive attorney consultation, court appearance, records preparation, or other services beyond the ordinary evaluation are requested or required, additional professional fees apply. Any applicable fees will be disclosed in accordance with Untangled Mind's current policies.

TELEHEALTH EVALUATION SERVICES

Clinical evaluation services may be provided through TeleMental Health using technology-assisted communication. Telehealth provides the convenience of completing an evaluation remotely but may involve limitations, including technological interruptions, equipment failure, limitations in observing behavior compared with an in-person setting, and potential privacy or security risks inherent in electronic communication.

Reasonable safeguards are used to protect electronic health information. No electronic communication system can be guaranteed to be completely secure. You agree to participate from a private environment appropriate for the evaluation and to take reasonable steps to protect the confidentiality of the session. You must inform the evaluator of your physical location at the time of the telehealth appointment. Evaluation services are available only when the evaluator is legally permitted to provide professional services in the jurisdiction where you are physically located. If technological problems substantially interfere with the evaluation, the appointment may be rescheduled, or another appropriate method of completing the evaluation may be



considered. If the evaluator determines that the evaluation cannot appropriately or reliably be completed through telehealth, the evaluator may discontinue the virtual evaluation and recommend an in-person or alternative evaluation.

Telehealth sessions will not be audio or video recorded unless separate written informed consent has been obtained.

TECHNOLOGY AND THIRD-PARTY SERVICES

Untangled Mind uses technology and third-party service providers in connection with clinical operations, which may include secure electronic health record/client portal services, telehealth technology, electronic communication, scheduling, payment processing, recordkeeping, and professional or legal consultation when necessary. These services are used with reasonable attention to privacy, confidentiality, and applicable legal requirements. By consenting to telehealth evaluation services, you acknowledge the use of technology and applicable third-party vendors in the delivery and administration of these services.

EMERGENCIES

Clinical evaluation services are not crisis services and do not provide continuous clinical monitoring or emergency response. If you are experiencing an immediate medical or psychiatric emergency, call 911 or seek assistance from the nearest emergency department. Information obtained during an evaluation that indicates a clear and imminent danger to yourself or another person may require the evaluator to take reasonable protective action consistent with applicable law and professional obligations.

FEES AND PAYMENT

Clinical evaluations are provided as a self-pay service and are not billed to health insurance. The fee for a standard adult clinical evaluation is **\$400**. Payment is due in full at the time of scheduling and is required before evaluation materials are provided.

The standard evaluation fee includes:

- Required intake and evaluation forms
- Administration and interpretation of clinically appropriate standardized assessment measures
- Review of relevant referral information and routine supporting documentation
- One clinical evaluation interview
- Integration and interpretation of assessment, interview, and available record findings



- One written clinical evaluation and recommendations, or completion of a referring party's standard evaluation form or template when appropriate
- Electronic delivery of the completed evaluation

The \$400 evaluation fee covers only the services identified above. Services outside the standard evaluation will incur additional professional fees. These may include extensive record review, additional interviews or collateral contacts, attorney or other professional consultation, substantial revisions requested after completion, preparation of additional reports or documents, expedited services, deposition preparation, testimony, or court-related services.

Additional professional services are billed at **\$175 for the first hour and in 15-minute increments thereafter at the equivalent hourly rate of \$175**. Each additional 15-minute increment is billed at **\$43.75**.

When reasonably possible, you will be notified before additional billable services are performed. Services required in response to a subpoena, court order, legal proceeding, or other circumstance outside the evaluator's control may not always permit advance notice or authorization.

All evaluation fees are non-refundable once payment has been made.

Payment for an evaluation does not guarantee completion of a report when there is insufficient or unreliable information to support a professionally appropriate conclusion. Payment also does not guarantee a particular finding, diagnosis, recommendation, report content, legal outcome, or other result.

CANCELLATION, INCOMPLETE EVALUATIONS, AND REFUNDS

All evaluation fees are **non-refundable once payment has been made**.

Completion of the evaluation requires timely completion of all requested forms, assessment instruments, documentation, and the scheduled clinical interview. Failure to complete required materials or attend the scheduled evaluation does not entitle the client to a full or partial refund.

Untangled Mind may decline to complete or may discontinue an evaluation when:

- Required information or documentation is not provided
- The individual does not participate sufficiently to permit a reliable evaluation
- Information provided appears materially unreliable, intentionally misleading, or insufficient to support a professional conclusion
- The referral question falls outside the evaluator's professional scope or competence
- Telehealth is determined to be inappropriate for the evaluation



- Circumstances arise that create a professional, ethical, or legal conflict

Evaluation fees compensate Untangled Mind for reserving evaluation capacity and for the professional and administrative work associated with the evaluation process, which may begin before the clinical interview and include review of submitted information, assessment administration, records review, scoring, interpretation, and preparation.

No refunds, credits, or prorated reimbursements will be issued for evaluation services once payment has been made, including when the individual chooses not to proceed, fails to complete required components, or discontinues participation before the evaluation is completed.

Payment does not guarantee completion of a report when the evaluator determines that there is insufficient or unreliable information to support a professionally appropriate evaluation, nor does payment guarantee any particular finding, diagnosis, recommendation, or outcome.

TIMING AND DELIVERY OF REPORT

Written findings are completed after all required components of the evaluation have been received and reviewed. Estimated completion times are not guarantees and may be affected by incomplete documentation, additional information needed, complexity of the referral question, or circumstances outside the evaluator's control. Generally, evaluation results are completed within 10 business days after all required assessment measures, clinical interviews, requested documentation, and other required components of the evaluation have been completed. This timeframe is an estimate and is not guaranteed. Incomplete records, additional information required to complete the evaluation, complexity of the referral question, or other circumstances may extend the completion time. Reports or completed forms will be provided electronically through an appropriate secure method. Reports will be released to third parties only as permitted or required by applicable law and professional requirements.

LIMITATIONS OF THE EVALUATION

A clinical evaluation represents the evaluator's professional opinion based upon the referral question and the information reasonably available at the time of the evaluation. Clinical findings may be affected by limitations inherent in self-report measures, incomplete or inaccurate information, unavailable collateral records, circumstances surrounding the referral, and changes in an individual's functioning over time. An evaluation does not predict future behavior with certainty and should not be interpreted as doing so. Untangled Mind does not guarantee any legal, occupational, probationary, licensing, clinical, or other outcome resulting from the evaluation.



VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION AND RIGHT TO WITHDRAW

Unless participation is required pursuant to a lawful order or other applicable requirement, participation in the evaluation is voluntary. You may choose to discontinue participation. However, withdrawal after an evaluation has begun may result in an incomplete evaluation, and fees for services already performed remain due. When an evaluation has been requested or ordered by a third party, declining or discontinuing the evaluation may have consequences determined by that third party. The evaluator cannot advise you regarding those consequences.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSENT

By signing below, I acknowledge that:

- I have read and understand this Informed Consent for Adult Clinical Evaluation Services.
- I understand that this service is an evaluation and is not psychotherapy.
- I understand the purpose and general procedures of the evaluation.
- I understand that standardized assessment instruments may be administered and interpreted as part of the evaluation.
- I understand that the evaluator cannot guarantee any particular finding, diagnosis, recommendation, or outcome.
- I understand the applicable limits of confidentiality.
- I understand that information may be released to an identified third party only as authorized or otherwise permitted or required by law.
- I understand the nature, benefits, risks, and limitations of receiving evaluation services through telehealth.
- I consent to the use of TeleMental Health and technology-assisted services for this evaluation.
- I understand that third-party technology vendors may be used in connection with recordkeeping, scheduling, payment, telehealth, communication, or other administrative functions.
- I understand the fees associated with the evaluation and that additional services may involve additional fees.
- I have had the opportunity to ask questions before consenting to the evaluation.
- I voluntarily consent to participate in the clinical evaluation.



Client Name: _____

Client Signature: _____

Date: _____

Evaluator: Piper Harris, LPC

Evaluator Signature: _____

Date: _____

VERBAL TELEHEALTH CONSENT

Verbal consent to receive TeleMental Health evaluation services was obtained and documented by the evaluator.

Date obtained: _____

Evaluator initials: _____