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THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE AND PROVINCIAL PSYCHOLOGY BOARDS (ASPPB)

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DRAFT CODE OF CONDUCT

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Introduction

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○ **PURPOSE.** THE RULES WITHIN THIS CODE OF CONDUCT CONSTITUTE THE STANDARDS AGAINST WHICH THE REQUIRED PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT OF A PSYCHOLOGIST OR PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATE IS MEASURED.

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○ **SCOPE.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST OR PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATE SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THIS CODE OF CONDUCT WHENEVER PROVIDING PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES IN ANY CONTEXT. THIS CODE SHALL NOT SUPERSEDE STATE, FEDERAL OR PROVINCIAL STATUTES. THIS CODE SHALL APPLY TO THE CONDUCT OF ALL LICENSEES AND APPLICANTS, INCLUDING THE APPLICANT'S CONDUCT DURING THE PERIOD OF EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EMPLOYMENT WHICH IS REQUIRED FOR LICENSURE. THE TERM "PSYCHOLOGIST," AS USED WITHIN THIS CODE, SHALL BE INTERPRETED ACCORDINGLY.

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○ **RESPONSIBILITY FOR OWN ACTIONS.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS/HER OWN PROFESSIONAL DECISIONS AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIONS.

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○ **VIOLATIONS.** A VIOLATION OF THIS CODE OF CONDUCT CONSTITUTES UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND IS SUFFICIENT GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION OR DENIAL OF LICENSURE OR REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSURE.

○ **AIDS TO INTERPRETATION.** ETHICS CODES AND STANDARDS FOR PROVIDERS PROMULGATED BY THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, THE CANADIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, AND OTHER RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL GROUPS SHALL BE USED AS AN AID IN RESOLVING AMBIGUITIES WHICH MAY ARISE IN THE INTERPRETATION OF THIS CODE OF CONDUCT, EXCEPT THAT THIS CODE OF CONDUCT SHALL PREVAIL WHENEVER ANY CONFLICT EXISTS BETWEEN THIS CODE AND ANY OTHER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION STANDARD.

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32 **DEFINITIONS**

33 **A. CLIENT (ALSO KNOWN AS PATIENT) IS:**

- 34 1. A DIRECT RECIPIENT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF A
35 PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP INCLUDING A CHILD, ADOLESCENT, ADULT, COUPLE,
36 FAMILY, GROUP, ORGANIZATION, COMMUNITY, OR OTHER POPULATIONS, OR OTHER
37 ENTITIES RECEIVING PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES;
- 38 2. THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY REQUESTING THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES AND NOT
39 NECESSARILY THE RECIPIENT OF THOSE SERVICES (E.G., AN EVALUATION THAT IS
40 COURT-ORDERED, REQUESTED BY AN ATTORNEY, AN AGENCY, OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE
41 BODY OR ORGANIZATION OR BUSINESS);
- 42 3. AN ORGANIZATION, SUCH AS A BUSINESS, CORPORATE ENTITY, COMMUNITY OR
43 GOVERNMENT THAT RECEIVES SERVICES DIRECTED PRIMARILY TO THE ORGANIZATION,
44 RATHER THAN TO THE INDIVIDUALS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ORGANIZATION; OR
- 45 4. AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A LEGAL GUARDIAN, INCLUDING MINORS AND LEGALLY
46 INCOMPETENT ADULTS; THE LEGAL GUARDIAN SHALL BE THE CLIENT FOR DECISION
47 MAKING PURPOSES, EXCEPT THAT THE INDIVIDUAL RECEIVING SERVICES SHALL BE THE
48 CLIENT FOR:
- 49 a) ISSUES DIRECTLY AFFECTING THE PHYSICAL OR EMOTIONAL SAFETY OF
50 THE INDIVIDUAL, SUCH AS SEXUAL OR OTHER EXPLOITATIVE DUAL
51 RELATIONSHIPS, OR
- 52 b) ISSUES SPECIFICALLY RESERVED TO THE INDIVIDUAL, AND AGREED TO BY
53 THE GUARDIAN PRIOR TO RENDERING OF SERVICES, SUCH AS
54 CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION IN A THERAPY RELATIONSHIP.

55 **B. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

56 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION IS INFORMATION REVEALED BY A CLIENT OR CLIENTS OR
57 OTHERWISE OBTAINED BY A PSYCHOLOGIST, WHERE THERE IS REASONABLE EXPECTATION
58 THAT BECAUSE OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CLIENT(S) AND THE PSYCHOLOGIST,
59 OR THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH THE INFORMATION WAS REVEALED OR
60 OBTAINED, THE INFORMATION SHALL NOT BE DISCLOSED BY THE PSYCHOLOGIST WITHOUT
61 THE INFORMED WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE CLIENT(S).

62 **C. COURT ORDER**

63 COURT ORDER IS THE WRITTEN OR ORAL COMMUNICATION OF A MEMBER OF THE
64 JUDICIARY, OR OTHER JUDICIAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL, IF SUCH AUTHORITY HAS
65 BEEN LAWFULLY DELEGATED TO SUCH OFFICIAL.

66 **D. LICENSED**

67 LICENSED DENOTES HAVING A LICENSE ISSUED BY A BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY WHICH
68 GRANTS THE AUTHORITY TO ENGAGE IN THE PRACTICE OF PSYCHOLOGY AS PERMITTED BY
69 THE ACT AND RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BOARD. THE TERMS CERTIFIED,
70 REGISTERED, OR ANY OTHER TERM CHOSEN BY A JURISDICTION WHEN USED IN THE SAME
71 CAPACITY AS LICENSED ARE CONSIDERED EQUIVALENT TERMS. WHEN SUCH TERM

72 IDENTIFIES A PERSON IT DENOTES THAT THE PERSON'S PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR IS
73 SUBJECT TO REGULATION BY THE BOARD.

74 **E. PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP**

75 PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP IS A MUTUALLY AGREED UPON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A
76 PSYCHOLOGIST AND A CLIENT(S) FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE CLIENT(S) OBTAINING THE
77 PSYCHOLOGIST'S PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE.

78 **F. PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

79 PROFESSIONAL SERVICE IS ANY ACTION OF THE PSYCHOLOGIST IN THE CONTEXT OF A
80 PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH A CLIENT.

81 **G. SUPERVISEE**

82 SUPERVISEE IS ANY PERSON WHO FUNCTIONS UNDER THE EXTENDED AUTHORITY OF THE
83 PSYCHOLOGIST TO PROVIDE, OR WHILE IN TRAINING TO PROVIDE, PSYCHOLOGICAL
84 SERVICES.

85 **RULES OF CONDUCT**

86 **A. COMPETENCE**

- 87 1. **LIMITS ON PRACTICE.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL LIMIT PRACTICE AND SUPERVISION TO
88 THE AREAS OF COMPETENCE IN WHICH PROFICIENCY HAS BEEN GAINED THROUGH
89 EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE.
- 90 2. **MAINTAINING COMPETENCY.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL MAINTAIN CURRENT
91 COMPETENCY IN THE AREAS IN WHICH HE/SHE PRACTICES, THROUGH CONTINUING
92 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, CONSULTATION, AND/OR OTHER PROCEDURES, IN
93 CONFORMANCE WITH CURRENT STANDARDS OF SCIENTIFIC AND PROFESSIONAL
94 KNOWLEDGE AND THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BOARD.
- 95 3. **ACCURATE REPRESENTATION.** A LICENSEE SHALL ACCURATELY REPRESENT HIS/ HER
96 AREAS OF COMPETENCE, EDUCATION, TRAINING, EXPERIENCE, AND PROFESSIONAL
97 AFFILIATIONS TO THE BOARD, EMPLOYERS, CONTRACTORS, THE PUBLIC, AND
98 COLLEAGUES.
- 99 4. **ADDING NEW SERVICES AND TECHNIQUES.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST, WHEN DEVELOPING
100 COMPETENCY IN A SERVICE OR TECHNIQUE THAT IS EITHER NEW TO THE PSYCHOLOGIST
101 OR NEW TO THE PROFESSION, SHALL SEEK APPROPRIATE EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN
102 THE NEW AREA AND ENGAGE IN ONGOING CONSULTATION WITH OTHER
103 PSYCHOLOGISTS OR RELEVANT PROFESSIONALS. THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL INFORM
104 CLIENTS OF THE INNOVATIVE NATURE AND THE KNOWN RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE
105 SERVICES, SO THAT THE CLIENT CAN EXERCISE FREEDOM OF CHOICE CONCERNING SUCH
106 SERVICES.
- 107 5. **REFERRAL.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL RECOMMEND OR MAKE REFERRALS TO OTHER
108 PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL, OR ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCES WHEN SUCH REFERRAL IS
109 CLEARLY IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CLIENT.

- 110 6. **SUFFICIENT PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION.** A PSYCHOLOGIST RENDERING A FORMAL
111 PROFESSIONAL OPINION ABOUT A PERSON, SHALL NOT DO SO WITHOUT DIRECT AND
112 SUBSTANTIAL PROFESSIONAL CONTACT WITH OR A FORMAL ASSESSMENT OF THAT
113 PERSON.
- 114 7. **MAINTENANCE AND RETENTION OF RECORDS.**
- 115 a) THE PSYCHOLOGIST RENDERING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO AN
116 INDIVIDUAL CLIENT (OR A DEPENDENT), OR SERVICES BILLED TO A THIRD
117 PARTY PAYOR, SHALL MAINTAIN PROFESSIONAL RECORDS THAT
118 INCLUDE:
- 119 1. THE NAME OF THE CLIENT AND OTHER PERTINENT
120 IDENTIFYING INFORMATION;
 - 121 2. THE PRESENTING PROBLEM(S) OR REASON FOR
122 PROVIDING SERVICE(S) OR DIAGNOSIS;
 - 123 3. THE FEE ARRANGEMENT;
 - 124 4. THE DATE AND SUBSTANCE OF EACH BILLED OR
125 SERVICE-COUNT CONTRACTOR SERVICE;
 - 126 5. ANY TEST RESULTS OR OTHER EVALUATIVE RESULTS
127 OBTAINED AND ANY BASIC TEST DATA FROM WHICH
128 THEY WERE DERIVED;
 - 129 6. NOTATION AND RESULTS OF FORMAL CONSULTS
130 WITH OTHER PROVIDERS;
 - 131 7. ANY COMMUNICATIONS THROUGH ANY MEDIUM;
 - 132 8. A COPY OF ALL TESTING OR OTHER EVALUATIVE
133 REPORTS PREPARED AS PART OF THE PROFESSIONAL
134 RELATIONSHIP AND
 - 135 9. ANY RELEASES EXECUTED BY THE CLIENT
- 136 b) THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL ENSURE THAT ALL DATA ENTRIES IN
137 PROFESSIONAL RECORDS ARE MAINTAINED FOR A PERIOD OF NOT LESS
138 THAN FIVE YEARS AFTER THE LAST DATE THAT SERVICE WAS RENDERED
139 OR THE RECORDS WERE ACCESSED, WHICHEVER IS LATER, OR FOR A
140 LONGER PERIOD IF REQUIRED BY LAW. THIS INCLUDES ANY RELEASES
141 EXECUTED BY THE CLIENT TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS RULE.
- 142 c) IF THE PSYCHOLOGIST IS TREATING MINORS, THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL
143 MAINTAIN THOSE RECORDS AT LEAST UNTIL THE CLIENT REACHES THE
144 AGE OF MAJORITY PLUS 5 YEARS.
- 145 d) THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL STORE AND DISPOSE OF WRITTEN,
146 ELECTRONIC OR OTHER RECORDS, REGARDLESS OF THE FORMAT OR
147 MEDIA IN WHICH THEY ARE MAINTAINED, IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO
148 ENSURE THEIR CONFIDENTIALITY. THE PSYCHOLOGIST MUST RETAIN
149 DOCUMENTATION OF THE RECORDS DESTROYED. THE PSYCHOLOGIST

150 SHALL MAINTAIN THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ALL RECORDS IN THE
151 PSYCHOLOGIST'S POSSESSION OR UNDER THE PSYCHOLOGIST'S CONTROL
152 EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW OR PURSUANT TO WRITTEN
153 OR SIGNED AUTHORIZATION OF A CLIENT SPECIFICALLY REQUESTING OR
154 AUTHORIZING RELEASE OR DISCLOSURE OF THE CLIENT'S RECORDS.

155 e) THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL PROVIDE FOR THE CONFIDENTIAL
156 DISPOSITION OF RECORDS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE MAINTENANCE
157 AND RETENTION OF RECORDS (b, c, d ABOVE) IN THE EVENT OF THE
158 PSYCHOLOGIST'S WITHDRAWAL FROM PRACTICE, INCAPACITY OR
159 DEATH.

160 f) FOR EACH PERSON PROFESSIONALLY SUPERVISED, THE PSYCHOLOGIST
161 SHALL MAINTAIN, FOR A PERIOD OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE (5) YEARS
162 AFTER THE LAST DATE OF SUPERVISION, A RECORD THAT SHALL
163 INCLUDE, AMONG OTHER INFORMATION, THE TYPE, PLACE, AND
164 GENERAL CONTENT OF THE SUPERVISION SESSIONS.

- 165 8. **CONTINUITY OF CARE.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ANOTHER
166 APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL OR PROFESSIONALS TO BE AVAILABLE FOR THE
167 EMERGENCY NEEDS OF HIS/HER CLIENTS, AS APPROPRIATE, DURING PERIODS OF THE
168 PSYCHOLOGIST'S FORESEEABLE ABSENCE FROM PROFESSIONAL AVAILABILITY.
- 169 9. **PROVIDING SUPERVISION.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL EXERCISE APPROPRIATE
170 SUPERVISION OVER SUPERVISEES, AS SET FORTH IN THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF
171 THE BOARD.
- 172 10. **DELEGATING PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT DELEGATE
173 PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES TO A PERSON NOT APPROPRIATELY LICENSED,
174 CREDENTIALLED OR OTHERWISE QUALIFIED TO PROVIDE SUCH SERVICES.

175 **B. MULTIPLE RELATIONSHIPS**

176 **1. DEFINITION OF MULTIPLE RELATIONSHIPS.** PSYCHOLOGISTS RECOGNIZE THAT
177 MULTIPLE RELATIONSHIPS MAY OCCUR BECAUSE OF THE
178 PSYCHOLOGIST'S PRESENT OR PREVIOUS FAMILIAL, SOCIAL,
179 EMOTIONAL, FINANCIAL, SUPERVISORY, POLITICAL, ADMINISTRATIVE
180 OR LEGAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CLIENT OR A RELEVANT PERSON
181 ASSOCIATED WITH OR RELATED TO THE CLIENT. PSYCHOLOGISTS TAKE
182 REASONABLE STEPS TO ENSURE THAT IF SUCH A MULTIPLE
183 RELATIONSHIP OCCURS, IT IS NOT EXPLOITATIVE OF THE CLIENT OR A
184 RELEVANT PERSON ASSOCIATED WITH OR RELATED TO THE CLIENT.

185 **2. PROHIBITED MULTIPLE RELATIONSHIPS.**

- 186 a. A MULTIPLE RELATIONSHIP THAT IS EXPLOITATIVE OF THE CLIENT OR A
187 RELEVANT PERSON ASSOCIATED WITH OR RELATED TO THE CLIENT IS
188 PROHIBITED. PSYCHOLOGISTS TAKE ALL REASONABLE STEPS TO ENSURE

189 THAT ANY MULTIPLE RELATIONSHIPS DO NOT IMPAIR THE
190 PSYCHOLOGIST'S PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT OR OBJECTIVITY OR RESULT
191 IN A CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH THE CLIENT OR A RELEVANT PERSON
192 ASSOCIATED WITH OR RELATED TO THE CLIENT.

193 b. MULTIPLE RELATIONSHIPS THAT WOULD NOT REASONABLY BE EXPECTED
194 TO IMPAIR A PSYCHOLOGIST'S JUDGMENT OR OBJECTIVITY OR RISK HARM
195 TO THE CLIENT OR RELEVANT PERSON ASSOCIATED WITH OR RELATED TO
196 THE CLIENT ARE NOT EXPRESSLY PROHIBITED.

197 **3. SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS**

198 a. PSYCHOLOGISTS DO NOT ENGAGE IN SEXUAL INTIMACIES OF ANY KIND
199 WITH CURRENT CLIENTS.

200 b. PSYCHOLOGISTS DO NOT ENGAGE IN SEXUAL INTIMACIES OF ANY KIND
201 WITH INDIVIDUALS THEY KNOW TO BE CLOSE RELATIVES OF, GUARDIANS
202 OF, OR ANYONE WHO HAS A SIGNIFICANT RELATIONSHIP WITH CURRENT
203 CLIENTS. PSYCHOLOGISTS ALSO DO NOT ENGAGE IN SEXUAL INTIMACIES
204 OF ANY KIND WITH INDIVIDUALS THEY KNOW TO BE CLOSE RELATIVES
205 OF, GUARDIANS OF, OR ANYONE WHO HAS A SIGNIFICANT
206 RELATIONSHIP WITH A FORMER CLIENT WITHIN THE PREVIOUS 24
207 MONTHS OF A PROVIDED PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICE INCLUDING BUT NOT
208 LIMITED TO PERFORMING AN ASSESSMENT OR RENDERING
209 COUNSELING, PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC, OR OTHER PROFESSIONAL
210 PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES.C. PSYCHOLOGISTS DO NOT TERMINATE THE
211 PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP TO CIRCUMVENT THIS STANDARD.

212 c. PSYCHOLOGISTS DO NOT ACCEPT AS CLIENTS PERSONS WITH WHOM
213 THEY HAVE ENGAGED IN SEXUAL INTIMACIES OF ANY KIND.

214 d. PSYCHOLOGISTS DO NOT ENGAGE IN SEXUAL INTIMACIES OF ANY KIND
215 WITH FORMER CLIENTS TO WHOM THE PSYCHOLOGIST HAS AT ANY TIME
216 WITHIN THE PREVIOUS 24 MONTHS PROVIDED A PSYCHOLOGICAL
217 SERVICE INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO PERFORMING AN
218 ASSESSMENT OR RENDERING COUNSELING, PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC, OR
219 OTHER PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES.

220 e. THE PROHIBITIONS SET OUT IN (E) ABOVE SHALL NOT BE LIMITED TO THE
221 24-MONTH PERIOD BUT SHALL EXTEND INDEFINITELY IF THE CLIENT IS
222 PROVEN TO BE CLEARLY VULNERABLE, BY REASON OF AN EMOTIONAL
223 OR COGNITIVE DISORDER, TO EXPLOITATIVE INFLUENCE BY THE
224 PSYCHOLOGIST.

225 f. PSYCHOLOGISTS DO NOT ENGAGE IN SEXUAL INTIMACIES OF ANY KIND
226 WITH ANY STUDENT, PSYCHOLOGY TRAINEE, INTERN OR RESIDENT FOR
227 WHOM THEY HAVE OR ARE LIKELY TO HAVE EVALUATIVE AUTHORITY.

228 **C. IMPAIRMENT**

229 **IMPAIRED PSYCHOLOGIST.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT UNDERTAKE OR CONTINUE A
230 PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH A CLIENT WHEN THE PSYCHOLOGIST IS, OR COULD
231 REASONABLY BE EXPECTED BY THE BOARD TO BE, IMPAIRED DUE TO MENTAL,
232 EMOTIONAL, COGNITIVE, PHYSIOLOGICAL, PHARMACOLOGICAL, SUBSTANCE ABUSE OR
233 INDUCED CONDITIONS. IF SUCH A CONDITION DEVELOPS AFTER A PROFESSIONAL
234 RELATIONSHIP HAS BEEN INITIATED, THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL TERMINATE THE
235 RELATIONSHIP IN AN APPROPRIATE MANNER, SHALL NOTIFY THE CLIENT IN WRITING OF
236 THE TERMINATION, AND SHALL ASSIST THE CLIENT IN OBTAINING SERVICES FROM
237 ANOTHER PROFESSIONAL.

238 **D. WELFARE OF CLIENT**

239 **1. PROVIDING EXPLANATION OF PROCEDURES.** PRIOR TO PROVIDING ANY PSYCHOLOGICAL
240 SERVICES, THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL OBTAIN INFORMED CONSENT FROM THE CLIENT FOR
241 ANY PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES THAT ARE PROVIDED. THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL GIVE A
242 TRUTHFUL, UNDERSTANDABLE, AND APPROPRIATE ACCOUNT OF THE CLIENT'S
243 CONDITION TO THE CLIENT OR TO THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CARE OF THE CLIENT.
244 THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL KEEP THE CLIENT FULLY INFORMED AS TO THE PURPOSE AND
245 NATURE OF ANY EVALUATION, TREATMENT, OR OTHER PROCEDURES, AND OF THE
246 CLIENT'S RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF CHOICE REGARDING SERVICES PROVIDED.

247 **2. TERMINATION OF SERVICES.** WHENEVER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ARE TERMINATED, IF
248 FEASIBLE, THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL OFFER TO HELP LOCATE ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF
249 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OR ASSISTANCE WHEN INDICATED. THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL
250 TERMINATE A PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP WHEN IT IS REASONABLY CLEAR THAT THE
251 CLIENT IS NOT BENEFITING FROM THE RELATIONSHIP, OR IF MUTUALLY AGREED UPON
252 GOALS HAVE BEEN MET, AND, IF FEASIBLE, SHALL PREPARE THE CLIENT APPROPRIATELY
253 FOR SUCH TERMINATION. A PSYCHOLOGIST MAY TERMINATE A PROFESSIONAL
254 RELATIONSHIP WHEN THREATENED OR OTHERWISE ENDANGERED BY THE CLIENT OR
255 ANOTHER PERSON ASSOCIATED WITH OR RELATED TO THE CLIENT.

256 **3. STEREOTYPING.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT IMPOSE ON THE CLIENT ANY
257 STEREOTYPES OF BEHAVIOR, VALUES, OR ROLES RELATED TO AGE, GENDER, RELIGION,
258 RACE, DISABILITY, NATIONALITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, OR DIAGNOSIS WHICH WOULD
259 INTERFERE WITH THE OBJECTIVE PROVISION OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES TO THE
260 CLIENT.

261 **4. SOLICITATION OF BUSINESS BY CLIENTS.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST PROVIDING SERVICES TO A
262 CLIENT(S) SHALL NOT INDUCE, PRESSURE OR COERCE CLIENT(S) TO SOLICIT BUSINESS ON
263 BEHALF OF THE PSYCHOLOGIST.

264 **5. REFERRALS ON REQUEST.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST PROVIDING SERVICES TO A CLIENT SHALL,
265 IF FEASIBLE, MAKE AN APPROPRIATE REFERRAL OF THE CLIENT TO ANOTHER
266 PROFESSIONAL WHEN REQUESTED TO DO SO BY THE CLIENT.

267 **6. PRESERVE HUMAN RIGHTS.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST DOES NOT ENGAGE IN ANY VERBAL OR
268 PHYSICAL BEHAVIOR WITH CLIENT(S) WHICH IS SEDUCTIVE, DEMEANING, HARASSING, OR
269 EXPLOITATIVE IN ANY WAY

270 **E. WELFARE OF SUPERVISEES, RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS AND STUDENTS**

271 **1. WELFARE OF SUPERVISEES.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT ENGAGE IN ANY VERBAL OR
272 PHYSICAL BEHAVIOR WITH SUPERVISEES WHICH IS SEDUCTIVE, DEMEANING, HARASSING
273 OR EXPLOITATIVE IN ANY WAY.

274 **2. WELFARE OF RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT ENGAGE IN ANY
275 VERBAL OR PHYSICAL BEHAVIOR WITH RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS WHICH IS SEDUCTIVE,
276 DEMEANING, HARASSING OR EXPLOITATIVE IN ANY WAY. THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL
277 RESPECT THE DIGNITY AND PROTECT THE WELFARE OF HIS/HER RESEARCH
278 PARTICIPANTS, AND SHALL COMPLY WITH ALL RELEVANT STATUTES AND
279 ADMINISTRATIVE RULES CONCERNING TREATMENT OF RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS.

280 **3. WELFARE OF STUDENTS.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT ENGAGE IN ANY VERBAL OR
281 PHYSICAL BEHAVIOR WITH STUDENTS WHICH IS SEDUCTIVE, DEMEANING, HARASSING OR
282 EXPLOITATIVE IN ANY WAY.

283 **F. PROTECTING CONFIDENTIALITY OF CLIENTS**

284 **1. IN GENERAL.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL SAFEGUARD THE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION
285 OBTAINED IN THE COURSE OF PRACTICE, TEACHING, RESEARCH, OR OTHER
286 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES. THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL DISCLOSE CONFIDENTIAL
287 INFORMATION TO OTHERS ONLY WITH THE INFORMED CONSENT OF THE CLIENT UNLESS
288 OTHERWISE REQUIRED OR PERMITTED BY LAW.

289 **2. DISCLOSURE WITHOUT INFORMED CONSENT.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST MAY DISCLOSE
290 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION WITHOUT THE INFORMED CONSENT OF THE CLIENT WHEN
291 THE PSYCHOLOGIST JUDGES THAT DISCLOSURE IS NECESSARY TO PROTECT AGAINST A
292 CLEAR AND SUBSTANTIAL RISK OF IMMINENT SERIOUS HARM BEING INFLICTED BY THE
293 CLIENT ON THE CLIENT THEMSELVES OR ON ANOTHER PERSON. THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL
294 LIMIT DISCLOSURE OF THE OTHERWISE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION TO ONLY THOSE
295 PERSONS AND ONLY THAT CONTENT WHICH WOULD BE PERMISSIBLE UNDER THE
296 STANDARDS OF THE PROFESSION FOR ADDRESSING SUCH PROBLEMS. WHEN THE CLIENT
297 IS AN ORGANIZATION, DISCLOSURE SHALL BE MADE ONLY AFTER THE PSYCHOLOGIST HAS
298 MADE A REASONABLE BUT UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO HAVE THE PROBLEMS
299 CORRECTED WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION.

- 300 **3. RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL RELEASE
301 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION TO OTHERS ONLY WITH THE INFORMED CONSENT OF THE
302 CLIENT UNLESS OTHERWISE REQUIRED OR PERMITTED BY LAW.
- 303 **4. SERVICES INVOLVING MORE THAN ONE INTERESTED PARTY.** IN A SITUATION IN WHICH
304 MORE THAN ONE PARTY HAS AN APPROPRIATE INTEREST IN THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
305 RENDERED BY THE PSYCHOLOGIST TO A CLIENT OR CLIENTS, THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL,
306 TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, CLARIFY TO ALL PARTIES PRIOR TO RENDERING THE SERVICES
307 THE DIMENSIONS OF CONFIDENTIALITY AND PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY THAT SHALL
308 PERTAIN IN THE RENDERING OF SERVICES. SUCH CLARIFICATION IS SPECIFICALLY
309 INDICATED, AMONG OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES, WHEN THE CLIENT IS A MINOR OR AN
310 ORGANIZATION.
- 311 **5. MULTIPLE CLIENTS.** WHEN SERVICE IS RENDERED TO MORE THAN ONE CLIENT DURING A
312 JOINT SESSION, THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROFESSIONAL
313 RELATIONSHIP CLARIFY TO ALL PARTIES THE MANNER BY WHICH CONFIDENTIALITY WILL
314 BE HANDLED. ALL PARTIES SHALL BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS AND TO ACCEPT
315 WHATEVER LIMITATIONS TO CONFIDENTIALITY ATTACH TO THE SITUATION.
- 316 **6. LEGALLY DEPENDENT CLIENTS.** AT THE BEGINNING OF A PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP,
317 TO THE EXTENT THAT THE CLIENT CAN UNDERSTAND, THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL INFORM
318 A CLIENT WHO IS BELOW THE AGE OF MAJORITY OR WHO HAS A LEGAL GUARDIAN, OF
319 THE LIMIT THE LAW IMPOSES ON THE RIGHT OF CONFIDENTIALITY WITH RESPECT TO
320 HIS/HER COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE PSYCHOLOGIST.
- 321 **7. LIMITED ACCESS TO CLIENT RECORDS.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL LIMIT ACCESS TO
322 CLIENT RECORDS TO PRESERVE THEIR CONFIDENTIALITY AND SHALL ENSURE THAT ALL
323 PERSONS WORKING UNDER THE PSYCHOLOGIST'S AUTHORITY COMPLY WITH THE
324 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFIDENTIALITY OF CLIENT MATERIAL.
- 325 **8. REPORTING OF ABUSE OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST
326 SHALL COMPLY WITH ANY RELEVANT LAW CONCERNING THE REPORTING OF ABUSE OF
327 CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS.
- 328 **9. DISCUSSION OF CLIENT INFORMATION AMONG PROFESSIONALS.** WHEN RENDERING
329 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AS PART OF A TEAM OR WHEN INTERACTING WITH OTHER
330 APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONALS CONCERNING THE WELFARE OF THE CLIENT, THE
331 PSYCHOLOGIST MAY SHARE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLIENT PROVIDED
332 THE PSYCHOLOGIST TAKES REASONABLE STEPS TO ENSURE THAT ALL PERSONS
333 RECEIVING THE INFORMATION ARE INFORMED ABOUT THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF
334 THE INFORMATION AND ABIDE BY THE RULES OF CONFIDENTIALITY.
- 335 **10. REDACTION OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.** WHEN ANY INFORMATION FROM
336 OTHERWISE CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS IS TO BE USED FOR TEACHING, RESEARCH,
337 PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATION OR FOR ANY OTHER PUBLIC OR PROFESSIONAL PURPOSE
338 THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL EXERCISE REASONABLE CARE TO ENSURE THAT THE

339 DISCLOSED MATERIAL HAS BEEN PROPERLY REDACTED TO PREVENT CLIENT
340 IDENTIFICATION.

341 **11. OBSERVATION AND ELECTRONIC RECORDING.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL ENSURE THAT
342 OBSERVATION OR ELECTRONIC RECORDING OF A CLIENT OCCUR ONLY WITH THE
343 INFORMED WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE CLIENT.

344 **12. CONFIDENTIALITY AFTER TERMINATION OF PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP.** THE
345 PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL CONTINUE TO TREAT AS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION
346 REGARDING A CLIENT AFTER THE PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE
347 PSYCHOLOGIST AND THE CLIENT IS OVER, INCLUDING THE DEATH OF THE CLIENT.

348 **G. REPRESENTATION OF SERVICES**

349 **1. DISPLAY OF LICENSE.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL DISPLAY HIS/HER CURRENT (NAME OF
350 JURISDICTION) LICENSE TO PRACTICE PSYCHOLOGY, ON THE PREMISES OF HIS/HER
351 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE SITE.

352 **2. MISREPRESENTATION OF QUALIFICATIONS.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT
353 MISREPRESENT DIRECTLY OR BY IMPLICATION HIS/HER PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS
354 SUCH AS EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, OR AREAS OF COMPETENCE.

355 **3. MISREPRESENTATION OF AFFILIATIONS.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT
356 MISREPRESENT DIRECTLY OR BY IMPLICATION HIS/ HER AFFILIATIONS, OR THE
357 PURPOSES OR CHARACTERISTICS OF INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS WITH WHICH
358 THE PSYCHOLOGIST IS ASSOCIATED.

359 **4. FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT INCLUDE FALSE
360 OR MISLEADING INFORMATION IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS ABOUT PROFESSIONAL
361 SERVICES OFFERED.

362 **5. MISREPRESENTATION OF SERVICES OR PRODUCTS.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT
363 ASSOCIATE WITH OR PERMIT HIS/HER NAME TO BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH ANY
364 SERVICES OR PRODUCTS IN SUCH A WAY AS TO MISREPRESENT (A) THE SERVICES OR
365 PRODUCTS, (B) THE DEGREE OF HIS/HER RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SERVICES OR
366 PRODUCTS, OR (C) THE NATURE OF HIS/HER ASSOCIATION WITH THE SERVICES OR
367 PRODUCTS.

368 **6. CORRECTION OF MISREPRESENTATION BY OTHERS.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL
369 CORRECT OTHERS WHO MISREPRESENT THE PSYCHOLOGIST'S PROFESSIONAL
370 QUALIFICATIONS OR AFFILIATIONS. THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL, WHEN HE/SHE
371 BECOMES AWARE, MAKE ALL REASONABLE ATTEMPTS TO CORRECT ANY PUBLIC
372 INFORMATION ABOUT THE PSYCHOLOGIST, THEIR CREDENTIALS, QUALIFICATIONS, OR
373 SERVICES DISPLAYED IN A PUBLIC MEDIUM.

374

375 **H. FEES AND STATEMENTS**

376 **1. DISCLOSURE OF COST OF SERVICES.** AS EARLY AS FEASIBLE, THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL
377 INFORM THE RECIPIENT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES OF ALL COMPENSATION AND
378 BILLING ARRANGEMENTS. THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT MISLEAD OR WITHHOLD
379 FROM THE CLIENT, A PROSPECTIVE CLIENT, OR THIRD PARTY PAYOR, INFORMATION
380 ABOUT THE COST OF HIS/HER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

381 **2. REASONABLENESS OF FEE.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT EXPLOIT THE CLIENT OR
382 RESPONSIBLE PAYOR BY CHARGING A FEE THAT IS EXCESSIVE FOR THE SERVICES
383 PERFORMED OR BY ENTERING INTO AN EXPLOITIVE BARTERING ARRANGEMENT IN LIEU
384 OF A FEE.

385 **I. ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES**

386 **1. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL TREAT THE RESULT OR
387 INTERPRETATION OF ANY ASSESSMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL AS CONFIDENTIAL
388 INFORMATION.

389 **2. COMMUNICATION OF RESULTS.** WHEN COMMUNICATING THE RESULTS OF ANY
390 ASSESSMENT TO THE CLIENT, PARENTS, LEGAL GUARDIANS OR OTHER AGENTS OF THE
391 CLIENT, THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL ALSO PROVIDE ADEQUATE INTERPRETIVE AIDS OR
392 EXPLANATIONS NECESSARY TO PERMIT THE PARTY TO UNDERSTAND AND MAKE
393 DECISIONS BASED ON THOSE RESULTS.

394 **3. RESERVATIONS CONCERNING RESULTS.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL INCLUDE IN HIS/HER
395 REPORT OF THE RESULTS OF A FORMAL ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE, FOR WHICH NORMS
396 ARE AVAILABLE, ANY DEFICIENCIES OF THE ASSESSMENT NORMS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL
397 ASSESSED AND ANY RELEVANT RESERVATIONS OR QUALIFICATIONS WHICH AFFECT
398 THE VALIDITY, RELIABILITY, OR OTHER INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS.

399 **4. PROTECTION OF INTEGRITY OF ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL
400 NOT REPRODUCE OR DESCRIBE IN PUBLICATIONS, LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS OR ANY
401 OTHER PUBLIC DISCLOSURES PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS OR OTHER ASSESSMENT DEVICES
402 IN WAYS THAT MIGHT COMPROMISE THEIR SECURITY OR VIOLATE THEIR COPYRIGHT.

403 **5. INFORMATION FOR PROFESSIONAL USERS.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST OFFERING AN
404 ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE OR AUTOMATED INTERPRETATION SERVICE TO OTHER
405 PROFESSIONALS SHALL ACCOMPANY THIS OFFERING BY A MANUAL OR OTHER
406 PRINTED MATERIALS THAT FULLY DESCRIBES THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ASSESSMENT
407 PROCEDURE OR SERVICE, THE RATIONALE, EVIDENCE OF VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY,
408 AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NORMATIVE POPULATION. THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL
409 EXPLICITLY STATE THE PURPOSE AND APPLICATION FOR WHICH THE PROCEDURE IS
410 RECOMMENDED AND IDENTIFY SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED TO ADMINISTER
411 AND INTERPRET IT PROPERLY. THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL ENSURE THAT THE

412 ADVERTISEMENTS FOR THE ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE OR INTERPRETIVE SERVICE ARE
413 FACTUAL AND DESCRIPTIVE.

414 **J. VIOLATIONS OF LAW**

415 **1. VIOLATION OF APPLICABLE STATUTES.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT VIOLATE ANY
416 APPLICABLE STATUTE OR ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF
417 PSYCHOLOGY.

418 **2. USE OF FRAUD, MISREPRESENTATION, OR DECEPTION.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT
419 USE FRAUD, MISREPRESENTATION, OR DECEPTION IN OBTAINING A PSYCHOLOGY
420 LICENSE, IN PASSING A PSYCHOLOGY LICENSING EXAMINATION, IN ASSISTING
421 ANOTHER TO OBTAIN A PSYCHOLOGY LICENSE OR TO PASS A PSYCHOLOGY LICENSING
422 EXAMINATION, IN BILLING CLIENTS OR THIRD PARTY PAYORS, IN PROVIDING
423 PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICE, IN REPORTING THE RESULTS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL
424 EVALUATIONS OR SERVICES, OR IN CONDUCTING ANY OTHER ACTIVITY RELATED TO
425 THE PRACTICE OF PSYCHOLOGY.

426 **K. AIDING UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE**

427 **1. AIDING UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT AID OR ABET
428 ANOTHER PERSON IN MISREPRESENTING HIS/HER PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS OR IN
429 ILLEGALLY ENGAGING IN THE PRACTICE OF PSYCHOLOGY.

430 **2. DELEGATING PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL NOT
431 DELEGATE PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES TO A PERSON NOT APPROPRIATELY
432 LICENSED, CREDENTIALLED OR OTHERWISE QUALIFIED TO PROVIDE SUCH SERVICES.

433 **L. REPORTING SUSPECTED VIOLATIONS**

434 **1. REPORTING OF VIOLATIONS TO BOARD.** THE PSYCHOLOGIST WHO HAS REASON TO
435 BELIEVE THAT THERE HAS BEEN A VIOLATION OF THE STATUTES OR RULES OF THE
436 BOARD, THAT MIGHT REASONABLY BE EXPECTED TO HARM A CLIENT, MAY REPORT
437 SUCH VIOLATION TO THE BOARD, OR IF REQUIRED BY STATUTE SHALL REPORT TO THE
438 BOARD. UNLESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE, THE CLIENT'S NAME MAY BE PROVIDED ONLY
439 WITH THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE CLIENT.

440 **2. PROVIDING INFORMATION TO CLIENT.** WHEN A PSYCHOLOGIST LEARNS FROM A
441 CLIENT OF A POSSIBLE VIOLATION OF THE STATUTES OR RULES OF THE BOARD, OR
442 WHEN A PSYCHOLOGIST RECEIVES A REQUEST FROM A CLIENT FOR INFORMATION ON
443 HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE BOARD, THE PSYCHOLOGIST HAS AN
444 OBLIGATION TO INFORM THE CLIENT OF THE STANDARDS OF PRACTICE OF
445 PSYCHOLOGY AND HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE BOARD.