

Center For Marriage and Family Counseling
Creative Couples and Counseling PLLC
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Court Policy

Please be advised that the therapists, therapist interns and staff of Flower Mound Counseling, PLLC and the Center for Marriage and Family Counseling do not participate in person, by phone or in writing in any court related matter that the client of Flower Mound Counseling, PLLC and the Center for Marriage and Family Counseling may be a party to or become a party to in any way. The therapists and interns of Flower Mound Counseling, PLLC and the Center for Marriage and Family Counseling do not write letters regarding their client's treatment to any entity, including court. The therapists and interns of Flower Mound Counseling, PLLC and the Center for Marriage and Family Counseling at no time will offer an opinion or recommendation in any court matter, especially as it relates to custody.

If a court order is served and is requesting that a therapist or therapist intern of Flower Mound Counseling, PLLC and the Center for Marriage and Family Counseling be present in person and or there is a request for records, the client's consent will be requested before turning over confidential information. When obtaining this consent, the client will be told exactly what has been requested by court and there is no guarantee that the information will be kept confidential. This includes a client's mental health history; current status and inclusive records and may not be in the best interest of the client. The therapist client relationship does not render the therapist as an advocate. The therapist will withhold any opportunity to engage in a dual relationship with the client.

If called to testify in a deposition or court hearing, the client may not discern between information and records provided. All information and records are available for discovery. This may not be in the best interests of the client. The therapist reserves the right to discuss the implications of releasing information and records.

Couples & Family Therapy:

When working with couples and families, it is imperative that all clients understand that if they wish to access their records during or after completion of therapy, all adult participants must consent to the release of such records. This also includes court letters and testimony. Both participants must consent to disclosure, otherwise the therapist shall invoke privilege.

All adult parties please initial here:

COURT POLICY FOR FMC

Minors in Therapy:

When working with minors in the state of Texas please be advised that minors in the State of Texas must have a parent/guardian with legal right to consent to treatment to begin counseling. Although parents may have the right of access to the records associated with the minor's treatment, as the minor's therapist, it is the therapists' ethical duty to inform the minor of the significance of releasing records (both verbally and in writing) as it may or may not benefit them therapeutically. The minor must consent to disclosure, otherwise the therapist shall invoke privilege and not release records without a subpoena.

All parties please initial here:

Parent initials

Parent initials

Fees Associated with Legal Cases:

Please be advised that should a therapist or intern from Flower Mound Counseling, PLLC and the Center for Marriage and Family Counseling be court ordered to appear in court or at a deposition, the fee stipulation is as follows:

- \$1,500 per half day and 3,000 per full day plus \$200 per hour for travel to and from the court.
- \$200 per hour for preparation
- If the therapist subpoenaed is an intern, the FMC Site Supervisor and the site supervisor at the Center for Marriage and Family Counseling must also be subpoenaed and paid at the rate of \$3,000 per day plus \$200 per hour for travel to and from the court and for court preparation.

Please be advised that should a therapist or intern from Flower Mound Counseling, PLLC and the Center for Marriage and Family Counseling be ordered by court to write a letter to the court, the time shall be billed at \$200 per hour.

All therapist's and interns of Flower Mound Counseling, PLLC and Center for Marriage and Family Counseling will **NOT** be ON-CALL at any time. Should a hearing be delayed or

continued, the therapist will be paid in full for each day as well as an additional \$1,000 per day as it hinders the therapist's or intern's ability to be available to their other clients.

Subpoenas

Please coordinate with our office scheduler to ensure that the therapist can be available for the date and time of the deposition or court hearing. Therapists do not accept subpoena via certified mail, email, or facsimile. Therapists only accept subpoena via process server. Reminder: A subpoena in which the client provided the therapist as a potential witness shall be billed in full for all court related activity.

All court fees must be received by cashier's check 7 days prior to the court date. Should the court calendar the hearing for another date, the therapist or intern must be re-issued a new subpoena with the new court hearing date.

Should the therapists or interns be on vacation, the party initiating the court order must take reasonable steps to avoid imposing undue burden or expense on a person subject to the subpoena.

By signing and dating below, you understand and agree to the above stated court policy and stipulation, including but not limited to the fee structure for all related court matters.

SIGNATURE OF ADULT

DATE

SIGNATURE OF ADULT

DATE