

Private Practice Social Media Policy

Making Friend Requests or Contact Requests:

In order to protect your confidentiality and to preserve the boundaries of our provider and client/patient relationship, therapists cannot accept friend or contact requests from any current or former clients on any social networking site (Face book, etc.).

Regarding Professional/ Business Face book Pages:

Professional/business Facebook pages are educational pages, which are available to everyone in the general public to "like" and have access to; so please be mindful that when you "like" these pages that it means that you will be sent general educational information notices, unless you select other choices otherwise under your Facebook options. Please check with Facebook Help regarding its uses and privacy policies, as we cannot protect nor insure your privacy when using this social media format.

Therapists may eventually maintain Facebook pages for professional practice to allow the general public to share educational blog posts and practice events and workshop updates with other Facebook users. Facebook business pages will be intended for general educational & informational use and is not meant for client/ therapist interactions, so please do not use these pages for client/therapist-related interactions. Much of the information shared on this page will also available on my websites. You are welcome to review our Facebook Business page and read or share articles posted there, but do be mindful that a client, we do not in any way request that you endorse a page [this includes "liking" our pages] in that it could compromise your privacy by doing so.

Following Former or Current Clients/ Patients Online:

Therapists will not make any social networking contact requests of former or current clients. We also do not follow your blogs, tweets, or other social media or internet postings. If you would like to share aspects of your online life with us, please feel free to bring these to your sessions to discuss them. Keeping our working relationship confidential is one of our main goals.

Contacting Us Online or via Text Message:

Please be aware that if you use text, media message or message therapists on Social Networking sites such as Twitter, Facebook, etc. None of these sites are secure and they are NOT encrypted therefore we cannot guarantee complete confidentiality. We may not receive and/or read these messages in a timely fashion and may not be able to respond to any requests or responses via these sites or via text message.

Do not use Wall postings, @replies, or other means of engaging with us in public online if we have an already established client/therapist relationship. Engaging with us in this way could compromise your confidentiality. It may also create the possibility that these exchanges become a part of your legal or medical record as any communications will need to be printed/documentated and archived in your chart.

Email Usage:

Please be aware that if you choose to email, it is NOT completely secure, NOT encrypted and therefore NOT completely confidential. If you choose to communicate by email, be aware that all emails are retained in the logs of your and our 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 providers.

You may find The Arlington Center, or any of our Therapists on sites such as Yelp, Yahoo, Goggle or other places which list businesses. Some of these sites include forums in which users rate their providers and add reviews. Many of these sites comb search engines for business listings and automatically add listings regardless of whether the business has added itself to the site or not.

If you should find any of our listings on any of these sites, please be aware that we are not requesting a testimonial, rating, or endorsement from you as our client. Your therapist and The Arlington Center is ethically and legally obligated to protect your confidentiality. If you choose to provide a rating, please note that your information may not be kept with only that site.

Also, to protect your confidentiality, we will not respond to any such postings/reviews. However, please feel free to discuss your thoughts, feelings and concerns about our work during your sessions with your therapist.

