## TELETHERAPY CONSENT FORM Debra Ruben, PhD, LCSW

I hereby consent to engage in teletherapy. Teletherapy is a form of therapy service provided via telephone or video technology, which can include consultation, treatment, transfer of medical data, emails, telephone conversations and/or education using interactive audio, video, or data communications. I also understand that teletherapy involves the communication of my medical/mental health information, both orally and/or visually. Teletherapy has the same purpose or intention as psychotherapy sessions that are conducted in person. However, due to the nature of the technology used, I understand that teletherapy may be experienced somewhat differently than face-to-face treatment sessions. I understand that I have the following rights with respect to teletherapy:

Client's Rights, Risks, and Responsibilities:

- 1. I, the client, need to be a resident of California.
- 2. I, the client, have the right to withhold or withdraw consent at any time without affecting my right to future care or treatment as available.
- 3. The laws that protect the confidentiality of my medical information also apply to teletherapy.
- 4. I understand that there are risks and consequences of participating in teletherapy, including, but not limited to, the possibility, despite best efforts to ensure high encryption and secure technology on the part of my therapist, that: the transmission of my information could be disrupted or distorted by technical failures; the transmission of my information could be interrupted by unauthorized persons; and/or the electronic storage of my medical information could be accessed by unauthorized persons.
- 5. There is a risk that services could be disrupted or distorted by unforeseen technical problems.
- 6. I understand that there is a risk of being overheard by anyone near me if I am not in a private room while participating in teletherapy. I am responsible for (1) providing the necessary computer, telecommunications equipment and internet access for my teletherapy sessions, and (2) arranging a location with sufficient lighting and privacy that is free from distractions or intrusions for my teletherapy session. It is the responsibility of the treatment provider to do the same on their end.
- 7. I understand that dissemination of any personally identifiable images or information from the telemedicine interaction to researchers or other entities shall not occur without my written consent.

I have read, understand and agree to the inform	ation provided above regarding
teletherapy:	

Client's Printed Name:	
Client's Signature:	Date