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# Conduct and Professional Behavior Policy for Jackson Ilyas Therapy Solutions Private Practice

**Effective Date:** January 1, 2023

**Review Date:** January 1, 2025

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## Introduction

At Jackson Ilyas Therapy Solutions Private Practice, we are committed to providing a safe, respectful, and professional therapeutic environment for all clients. This policy outlines expectations for behavior, including the conduct of both the therapist and clients, as well as the consequences of any violations, particularly regarding sexual misconduct.

By agreeing to work with us, clients acknowledge their understanding and acceptance of this policy.

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## 1. Professional Conduct and Ethical Standards

- **Therapist's Role:** The therapist will always maintain a professional and ethical relationship with clients, respecting client autonomy, confidentiality, and the therapeutic process. Therapists will not engage in behavior that could compromise the integrity of the therapeutic relationship.
  - **Respectful Behavior:** Both therapists and clients are expected to treat each other with respect and courtesy. This includes being on time for appointments, maintaining appropriate language, and avoiding any disruptive or inappropriate behavior during sessions.
  - **Confidentiality:** The therapist will maintain confidentiality in accordance with the legal and ethical standards of the profession. All personal information shared in therapy will be protected, except when disclosure is required by law (e.g., risk of harm to self or others, court orders, or mandatory reporting of abuse).
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## 2. Boundaries and Appropriate Behavior

- **Therapeutic Boundaries:** The therapist will set clear boundaries to ensure that the therapeutic relationship remains professional and therapeutic. This includes maintaining appropriate physical and emotional distance and refraining from behaviors that could blur professional lines.

- **Personal Relationships:** The therapist will not enter into any personal or social relationships with clients outside of the professional context. This includes, but is not limited to, socializing, dating, or engaging in financial transactions unrelated to therapy.
  - **Physical Contact:** Any physical contact between the therapist and client will be avoided unless it is deemed appropriate within the context of therapy (e.g., in somatic therapy or with client consent). If any physical contact is necessary, it will be communicated clearly to the client before it occurs. The client has the right to decline physical contact at any time.
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### 3. Sexual Misconduct and Unacceptable Behavior

Sexual misconduct is strictly prohibited in this practice and will not be tolerated under any circumstances. The therapist is committed to maintaining a safe, respectful environment, and engaging in any form of sexual misconduct constitutes a severe violation of ethical standards.

- **Sexual Misconduct Definition:** Sexual misconduct refers to any inappropriate or unprofessional behavior of a sexual nature, including but not limited to:
    - Sexual advances, comments, or behaviors
    - Suggestive or sexually inappropriate language
    - Physical touch of a sexual nature without consent
    - Any other form of behavior that creates a sexualized or unsafe environment
  - **Client's Responsibility:** Clients are also expected to refrain from any sexual advances, comments, or inappropriate behavior during sessions. Any behavior of this nature will be addressed immediately.
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### 4. Reporting Misconduct

- **Therapist's Duty to Report:** If a therapist experiences or witnesses any inappropriate behavior, they are obligated to address it immediately. The therapist will explain why such behavior is unacceptable, and further sessions may be terminated if the misconduct continues.
- **Client's Right to Report:** Clients who feel they have experienced sexual misconduct or any other unethical behavior during therapy are encouraged to report it immediately. The practice will take all complaints seriously, investigate them thoroughly, and take appropriate action.
- **How to Report:** Reports can be made by contacting the therapist directly via:
  - Phone: (513)446-5048
  - Email: Jackson Ilyas Therapy Solutions
  - In writing (during or after the session) if preferred.

Alternatively, clients may report misconduct to relevant licensing boards or professional organizations, such as:

- Counselor Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board 77 S High St 24<sup>th</sup> Fl RM 2468 Columbus, OH 43215. (614)466-0912.
  - Kentucky Board of Social Work 125 Holmes St, Suite 310 Frankfort, KY 40601. (502)564-2350
  - Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council 1801 Congress Ave, Suite 78701 Austin, TX 78701. (512)305-7700.
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## 5. Consequences of Violating the Conduct Policy

Any violation of this Conduct and Professional Behavior Policy, including sexual misconduct, will result in immediate and serious consequences. These may include:

- **Termination of the Therapeutic Relationship:** If the therapist is found to have violated the conduct policy, the client will be referred to another qualified professional. If the client engages in misconduct, the therapist may discontinue therapy with no further notice.
  - **Reporting to Authorities:** In cases of sexual misconduct, the therapist will report the incident to relevant legal authorities, and the client may be referred to law enforcement for further investigation if necessary.
  - **Licensing and Certification Action:** Serious violations, such as sexual misconduct, may result in a formal investigation by the therapist's licensing body, with potential consequences including suspension or revocation of the therapist's license.
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## 6. Consent and Acknowledgment

By scheduling and participating in therapy sessions with [Therapist's Name], the client acknowledges that they have read, understood, and agreed to the Conduct and Professional Behavior Policy, including the sections on sexual misconduct. If at any time the client feels uncomfortable or believes boundaries are being crossed, they should feel free to discuss these concerns with the therapist.

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## 7. Contact Information

For any questions about this policy, or to report misconduct, please contact the therapist directly at:

- **Phone:** (513)446-5048
- **Email:** Jackson Ilyas Therapy Solutions
- **Office Address:** P.O. Box 14634 Cincinnati, OH 45250-0634

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## **Final Note**

The goal of this policy is to create a safe, effective, and ethical space for therapy. Jackson Ilyas Therapy Solutions Private Practice is committed to maintaining a professional, respectful relationship with all clients. Any form of inappropriate behavior, including sexual misconduct, will not be tolerated and will be addressed immediately to ensure the well-being of all parties involved.

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This policy ensures that both clients and therapists understand the expectations regarding professional conduct and boundaries. It also emphasizes the importance of creating a safe, respectful space for therapeutic work and makes clear the consequences for violations of these boundaries.