



Specialty Behavioral Health

CONSENT TO USE UNENCRYPTED E-MAIL OR TEXT

It is very important that you are aware that computer e-mail, texts, and e-fax communication, can be relatively easily accessed by unauthorized people and hence can compromise the privacy and confidentiality of such communication. E-mails, texts, and e-faxes, in particular, are vulnerable to such unauthorized access due to the fact that servers or communication companies may have unlimited and direct access to all e-mails, texts and e-faxes that go through them. While your electronic data in your treatment records are stored offsite on an encrypted server, James Carter's computer hard drives are not encrypted, and unencrypted e-mails and e-faxes are not secure. It is always a possibility that e-faxes, texts, and e-mail can be sent erroneously to the wrong address and computers. Unencrypted e-mail or texts provide as much privacy as a postcard. You should not communicate any information to your health care provider using unencrypted e-mail, e-fax, or texts that you would not want to be included on a postcard that is sent through the Post Office. E-mail messages on your computer, your laptop, iPad, phone or other devices have inherent privacy risks – especially when your e-mail access is provided through your employer or when access to your e-mail messages is not password protected.

James Carter, Ph.D.'s computers are equipped with a firewall, a virus protection and a password. However, if his computer was stolen, information sent to him using unencrypted emails or texts could be accessed. Please, note that e-mails, faxes, and texts are all part of your clinical records. Also, be aware that phone messages are saved for up to 30 days after being deleted on an offsite server requiring password access. Please notify James Carter, Ph.D. in writing if you decide to avoid or limit, in any way, the use of e-mail, texts, cell phone calls, phone messages, or e-faxes. If you communicate confidential or private information via unencrypted e-mail, texts or e-fax or via phone messages, it will be assumed that you have evaluated the risks and made an informed decision, James Carter, Ph.D. will view it as your agreement to take the risk that such communication may be intercepted, and your desire to communicate on such matters will be honored.

James Carter Ph.D. offers you the option to contact him using encrypted emails by accessing his website (www.sbh-sd.com) and clicking on the link for making online appointments.

Please do not use texts, unencrypted e-mail, encrypted email, voice mail, or faxes for emergencies.

Patient's Name: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

In case that authentication is needed, please give me a password _____

Patient's Signature: _____ Date: _____