Outline

Understand the Legal System

Statutes Rules and regulations Case law Finding the law

Legal Exposure

Criminal liability Civil liability Licensing complaints Organization complaints

Establish the Treatment Relationship

The professional relationship The legal and ethical principle of informed consent Informed consent as part of the treatment modality Use of and reliance upon written consent forms

Record-Keeping Practices

Record-keeping regulations Items which constitute the record, pernotes vs. charting, raw data, computer printouts and third-party records Access to records by written requests,

subpoenas and court orders

The Ethics of Duty to Warn

Duty to warn potential third-party victims Review of specific Texas case law governing danger to others A clinical approach to the duty to protect

Treatment of Minors

Age of majority Consent to treatment and access to records Clinical implications in the treatment of the older adolescent Treatment of minors in situations of family separation and divorce

Non-Sexual Boundary Violations

Email correspondence and cell phone contacts Treatment vs. advocacy for patients Professional contacts with attorneys and the legal profession In-court expert testimony

Live Seminar Schedule

8:00 Registration/Morning Coffee & Tea 8:30 Program begins **11:50-1:00** Lunch (on your own) 4:30 Program ends

here will be two 15-min breaks (mid-morning & mid-afternoon ctual lunch and break start times are at the discretion of the speake nore detailed schedule is available upon request

Objectives

- 1. Determine specific state and administrative laws that are pertinent to establishing and maintaining an ethical clinical practice.
- 2. Develop policies on ethical issues such as restraints, seclusion and informed consent.
- 3. Determine which notes, documents, reports, forms, and clinical data constitute an official medical record in the state of Texas.
- 4. Evaluate your current record-keeping practices in order to ensure compliance with ethical and legal requirements in the state of Texas.
- 5. Designate the treatment provider's responsibilities relating to mental health issues and duty to warn law in Texas.
- 6. Explore the legal and ethical considerations for the treatment of minor populations in Texas with regard to age of consent, confidentiality and custody concerns.





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Mental Health Professionals

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Mental Health Professionals

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Ethical Principles in the Practice of

Texas

Mental Health Professionals

Many continuing education ethics programs are generic in nature. Many continuing education ethics programs stress risk management strategies to the detriment of the attendees, especially if an attorney presenter is involved.

This program is different. Rather than avoiding clinical issues, this program explores the manner by which clinical and ethical issues effect the everyday practice of the mental health professional in Texas. This unique blend of clinical and ethical concerns allows for a more meaningful understanding and interpretation of the rules that govern mental health practice.

"This was an extremely relevant program provided by a very knowledgeable presenter who provided very clear and thorough explanations. The fact that the presentation was state-specific was its most valuable aspect."

These goals are reached through the experience and the interactive style of the presenter, Allan M. Tepper, J.D., Psy.D. Different from other individuals who possess joint degrees in psychology and law, Dr. Tepper actually maintains an active psychology practice and an active law practice. He functions as a clinician, and he represents mental health professionals who experience legal difficulties. In this regard, Dr. Tepper brings an extremely unique perspective to the practical understanding of ethics.

These goals also are reached through the manual utilized in the seminar. The manual materials are not generic in nature. All of the written materials are

When interacting with an attorney, it sometimes is difficult to hear the words, "Trust me." For this seminar, however, we do say, "Trust us!!" We guarantee, you won't walk away disappointed.

Speaker -

state specific to Texas.

Allan M. Tepper, J.D., Psy.D., is engaged in the private practice of both law and psychology in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. As a psychologist, he specializes in forensic matters and has testified on numerous occasions in cases involving civil, criminal, domestic relations, and death penalty issues. As an attorney, he has extensive trial experience, including the representation of mental health professionals in ethics and licensing board proceedings. He has been an adjunct faculty member at Widener University in the Institute for Graduate Clinical Psychology, and at the Philadelphia Chapter of Great Lakes Colleges Association, and an adjunct assistant professor at Immaculate College, Graduate School. Dr. Tepper conducts ethical training for mental health professionals throughout the United States and is well-known for his engaging style. He publishes frequently in the areas of law and psychology. He is co-author of *Pennsylvania Law and Psychology - Third Edition*, and *Pennsylvania Law, Ethics, and Psychology - Fourth Edition*. He received his J.D. degree from Albany Law School and received M.S. and Psy.D. degrees in clinical psychology from Hahnemann University in Pennsylvania. Visit his website at www.allanmtepper.com.

Speaker Disclosure:

Financial: Allan Tepper is in private practice. He receives a speaking honorarium from PESI, Inc. Non-financial: Allan Tepper has no relevant non-financial relationship to disclose.

Target Audience:

Counselors • Social Workers • Psychologists • Case Managers • Addiction Counselors • Therapists Marriage & Family Therapists • Other Mental Health Professionals • Nurses

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If your profession is not listed, please contact your licensing board to determine your continuing education requirements and check for reciprocal approval. For other credit inquiries not specified below, or questions on home study credit availability, please contact cepesi@pesi.com or 800-844-8760 before the event.

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