## **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, personal notes 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 California 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

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## Live Webinar Schedule

(Times listed in Pacific)

8:30 Program begins

12:00-12:30 Lunch Break

3:45 Program ends

There will be two 15-min breaks (mid-morning & mid-afternoon). Actual lunch and break start times are at the discretion of the speaker A more detailed schedule is available upon request

# **Objectives**

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

# Ethical Principles in the Practice of California

Mental Health Professionals

Featuring Allan M. Tepper, Attorney and Psychologist

**2022 UPDATES** 



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# Ethical Principles in the Practice of California

# Mental Health Professionals

Featuring Allan M. Tepper, Attorney and Psychologist

- Make ethics meaningful, practical & helpful
- Apply ethics to everyday practice
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"This was probably the most rewarding day-long seminar I have ever attended; the supplemental readings were most appreciated."

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# Ethical Principles in the Practice of California

## Mental Health Professionals

This intermediate level program focuses on ethical, legal, statutory or regulatory policies, guidelines and standards that impact psychological practice and explores the manner by which clinical and ethical issues affect the everyday practice of the mental health professional in

California.

"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."

A licensed and practicing psychologist and attorney, Dr. Allan Tepper's blend of clinical and legal experience allows for a deeper understanding and interpretation of the rules that govern mental health practice in California and allows the attendee to identify specific state laws that affect and govern their practice. Through lecture, real case examples, a review of references including the APA Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct and the

seminar manual with state specific policies and regulations;

clinicians attending the course will be able to write policies for their practice, explain the content of medical records requirements and analyze their practice's compliance with state specific ethical and legal requirements. This course will help the practicing clinician to evaluate their record keeping practices and determine which notes and documents are required for medical records to be compliant. Finally, attendees will discuss the provider's responsibilities related to confidentiality and duty to warn with both adult and minor populations.

#### **Target Audience:**

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



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# Meet Your Speaker

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 frequently conducts ethics training for mental health professionals throughout the United States and is well-known for his engaging style and knowledge of each State's laws and regulations. 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.

Financial: Dr. Allan Tepper maintains private law and psychology practices. He receives a speaking honorarium and recording royalties from PESI, Inc. He is a published author and receives royalties. He has no relevant financial relationships with ineligible organizations.

Non-financial: Dr. Allan Tepper has no relevant non-financial relationships.

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California Counselors: The California Board of Behavioral Sciences accepts CE programs that are approved by other approval agencies, including several that approve PESI and its programs. A full list of approval agencies accepted by the BBS can be found at www.bbs.ca.gov/licensees/cont\_ed.html under "Where to find CE Courses." This Intermediate level activity consists of 6.0 clock hours of continuing education instruction.

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Other Professions: This activity qualifies for 375 minutes of instructional content as required by many national, state and local licensing boards and professional organizations. Save your course outline and certificate of completion, and contact your own board or organization for specific requirements.

**Self-study credit:** To check availability for your profession, go to www.pesi.com or call 800-726-3888 with your licensing board to verify acceptance of self-study credit for license renewal.

\*Content and materials in this course may include interventions and modalities that are beyond the authorized practice of your profession. As a licensed ofessional, you are responsible for reviewing the scope of practice, including activities that are defined in law as beyond the boundaries of practice in accordance with and in compliance with your profession's standards. PESI, Inc. offers continuing education programs and products under the brand names PESI, PESI Healthcare, PESI Kids, PESI Rehab and Psychotherapy

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## **Recommended Reading:**



#### Telemental Health with Kids Toolbox

102 Games, Play and Art Activities, Sensory and Movement Exercises, and Talk Therapy Interventions

Dr. Amy Marschall, Psy.D. \$<del>26.9</del>9 \$22.99\*



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Janina Fisher, Ph.D.

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