

WESTERN PSYCHOLOGICAL AND COUNSELING SERVICES, PC

**CLIENT
HANDOUT**

CONFIDENTIALITY OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE PATIENT RECORDS

The confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records maintained by WPCS is protected by Federal law and regulations. The program, or any employee of WPCS, may not disclose, verbally or in writing, to anyone outside the program that a patient attends the program or divulge any information identifying a patient as an alcohol or drug abuser unless:

1. The patient consents in writing to the disclosure and/or exchange of information.
2. The disclosure is allowed by a court order.
3. The disclosure is made to medical personnel in a medical emergency or to qualified personnel for research, audit, or program evaluation.
4. Federal law and regulations do not protect any information about a crime committed by a patient either at the program or against any person who works for the program or about any threat to commit such a crime.
5. Federal laws and regulations do not protect any information about suspected child abuse or neglect from being reported under Washington State law to appropriate state or local authorities.

WPCS is dedicated to full protection of the confidentiality of your records under the law. If you have any questions regarding your rights under the law and any accompanying regulations, please ask your counselor.

Violation of the Federal law and regulations by a program is a crime. Suspected violations may be reported to appropriate authorities in accordance with Federal regulations. (See 42 U.S.C. 290dd-3 and 42 U.S.C. 290ee-3 for Federal laws and 42 CFR Part 2 for Federal Regulations).
(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under Control No. 0930-0099)