Confidentiality and Privacy

All University Counseling Center (UCC) records are held strictly confidential to the extent protected by law and professional ethics. UCC records are set apart from all other records at the University and are not released to any other person or agency within or outside the University without the client's written consent. No record of counseling will be made on academic transcripts or in job placement files. All staff members subscribe to the ethical guidelines by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists as well as state licensing boards governing LPC, LMFT, LCSW, LCDC, and MD licenses. Our staff will provide you with specific information regarding any legal limits to confidentiality.

You have the right to know that there are exceptions to confidentiality. These situations include the following:

- When there is the risk of imminent harm to themselves or another person, counselors have a legal and ethical duty to do whatever is necessary to protect life. If your counselor believes that you present a clear and imminent risk of harm or danger to yourself or others, your counselor may make disclosures that he/she considers necessary to protect you or other persons from harm. (These may include but are not limited to sharing information with medical personnel, law enforcement professionals, and contacting your parents/spouse/emergency contact).

- If during the course of counseling, you disclose any information pertaining to the physical, emotional or sexual abuse or neglect of a minor or an elderly or disabled person, under Texas state law, your counselor must report this information to the proper authorities. For more information about these legal statutes, speak to your counselor or visit Texas Law (See Texas Statute Family Code, Title 5, Chapter 261 & Texas Statute Human Resource Code, Title 2, Chapter 48).

- A court-ordered subpoena can also require the Counseling Center to release information contained in records or require a counselor to testify in a court hearing.

- Therapists are required by law to report incidences of sexual misconduct on the part of other therapists.