

Professional Disclosure Statement



**Lenore Senior, M.A., LPC
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1. Lenore A. Senior, M.A., LPC, Encampment, WY 82325—(719) 252-0433, Website: www.lenore-senior.com.
2. Thank you for choosing Lenore A. Senior, M.A., LPC. Today's appointment will take approximately 53-75 minutes, with future sessions being 53-55 minutes. I realize that starting counseling is a major decision and you may have many questions. This document is intended to inform you of my policies, state and federal laws and your rights. If you have other questions or concerns, please ask at any time in the counseling process and I will do my best to give you all the information you need.
3. I am a licensed professional counselor licensed by the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies. My license number is CO LPC-4570. I received a Bachelor of Arts in English from Hastings College in 1966. I received a Master of Arts in Community Counseling from Adams State College in 2004. I have been or am now a member of the American Counseling Association, National Board of Certified Counselors, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Chi Sigma Iota (Counseling Academic & Professional Honor Society International), Lifetime Honor Society, Colorado Anti-Violence Program, Mental Health Association of Pueblo. I have been listed with the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies since 8/18/03 (#NLC-8008) when I was a National Certified Counselor, and obtained my Licensed Professional Counselor credentials on 02/21/07.
4. **Modalities:** As your counselor, I will treat you with respect as a unique individual. I generally use an eclectic range of modalities, including attachment theory, Gestalt, schema, trauma-informed, person centered, existential, and cognitive behavioral therapies, etc.
5. **Referrals:** In the event a more intensive level of care or treatment outside my scope of competence is warranted, I may provide you with a referral to another professional for those services.
6. **Ethics:** As a Licensed Professional Counselor, I follow the ethical rules and laws of my profession and the rules and regulations of the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies and the Code of Ethics established by the rules and regulations of the American Counseling Association (ACA). These include but are not limited to rules governing standards of confidentiality, dual relationships, and the prohibition against sexual intimacy between counselors and clients. Sexual intimacy with a client is never appropriate.
7. The **Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies** regulates the practice of licensed persons in the field of counseling and other mental health professions in the State of Colorado. Concerns or complaints

regarding the practice of counseling may be directed to DORA and their contact information is provided below:

Department of Regulatory Agencies
Mental Health Section
1560 Broadway
Denver, CO 80202
Phone: (303) 894-7766

8. Client Rights and Important Information:

- a. You are entitled to receive information from me about my methods of therapy, the techniques I use, the duration of your therapy (if I can determine it) and my fee structure.
- b. You may seek a second opinion from another therapist or terminate therapy at any time.
- c. In a professional relationship (such as ours), sexual intimacy between a therapist and a client is never appropriate and is against the law. In cases where this does occur, it should be reported to the Department of Regulatory Agencies (see paragraph 7 above).
- d. Generally speaking, the information provided by and to a client during therapy sessions is legally confidential. If the information is legally confidential, the therapist cannot be forced to disclose the information without the client's consent.
- e. Information disclosed is privileged communication and cannot be disclosed in any court of competent jurisdiction in the State of Colorado without the consent of the person to whom the testimony sought relates.

There are **exceptions to the general rule of legal confidentiality**. These exceptions are listed in the Colorado Statutes (C.R.S. 12-43-218). You should be aware provisions concerning the disclosure of confidential communication shall not apply to any delinquency or criminal proceedings, except as provided in Section 1390-107 C.R.S. Exceptions to confidentiality include:

- a) abuse or harmful neglect of children, the elderly or disabled or incompetent individuals is known or reasonably suspected
- b) the validity of a will of a former client is contested
- c) information related to counseling is necessary to defend against a malpractice action brought by a client
- d) an immediate threat of physical violence against a readily identifiable victim is disclosed to the counselor
- e) in the context of civil commitment proceedings, where an immediate threat of self-inflicted harm is he becomes an issue in any court
- g) the patient or client is examined pursuant to a court order
- h) in the context of investigations and hearings brought by the client and conducted by the board, where violations of this act are at issue.
- i) diagnosis and dates of service shared with the client's insurance company (if billing insurance to collect payments)
- j) cases where the client signs a release of information
- k) information necessary for supervision or consultation
- l) information released as outlined in the HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practice. Those required by law

9. The Counseling Process: *Counseling involves a "professional relationship between a trained counselor and a client. It is designed to help clients understand and clarify their views of their life space, and to learn to reach their self-determined goals through meaningful, well-informed choices and through resolution of problems of an emotional or interpersonal nature." (Burks and Steffire) Counseling may be seen as a process of self-examination facilitated by a professional counselor. The primary purpose is to create changes in mood, attitudes, behavior, thoughts or feelings that have prevented the client from enjoying life and realizing his/her potential and authentic self. Counseling involves sharing sensitive, personal, and private information that may, at times, be distressing. During the course of counseling, clients often experience periods of increased anxiety or confusion. Counseling is best accomplished when it is a cooperative effort between the counselor and the client. Talking with a counselor, alone, does not*

guarantee success or progress. Positive results are more likely to occur when the client accepts his/her responsibility as a client; however, the level of satisfaction for a particular individual is not predictable.

10. Emergency Situations: If an emergency arises outside of normal business hours, please attempt to (1) contact your counselor at (719) 252-0433. Other options include: (2) call 911 for assistance; (3) go to the nearest hospital emergency room; (4) call Suicide Prevention Hotline at (800) 273-8255.

I have read the above disclosure statement, understand what I have read, and voluntarily and knowingly execute this document subject to the above provision.

Client Signature and Date

Therapist Signature and Date