

At the Heart of the Matter Counseling

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(An outreach ministry of Biltmore Church of God)

A Release of Liability for Private Counseling Services

County of Buncombe – State of North Carolina

For and in consideration of Biltmore Church of God (hereinafter called BCOG) provision of private counseling services, the undersigned, being legally competent and fully authorized and empowered to do so, does hereby release, acquit, and forever discharge BCOG from any and all actions, courses of action, claims, demands, damages, costs, loss of service, expenses and compensation, on account of any and all known and unknown personal injuries, mental anguish or agitation, and damage claims to person or property resulting from or arising out of or related to counseling services provided by At the Heart of the Matter Counseling and/or its agents, representatives and/or employees in any way affecting the undersigned parties.

By law, there are certain situations in which information about individuals undergoing counseling may be released with or without permission. These situations are as follows:

1. Where children are physically abused, neglected, or sexually abused, the proper authorities must be notified.
2. In emergencies where there may be danger to the client or others, as with homicide or suicide, confidentiality may be broken.
3. If a court law issues a legitimate subpoena relating to a child abuse case, we are required by law to provide the information specifically described by the subpoena.
4. If an unreported life-threatening felony has been committed, we are required by law to report it to the police.

Before warning or notifying anyone, At the Heart of the Matter Counseling will first take all possible steps that they deem necessary to share that intention with the undersigned parties.

The undersigned parties have had the nature of the counseling services to be provided fully explained to them prior to receiving such services, and they freely enter into such counseling services with full knowledge of the nature of the treatment/counseling they are about to receive. The undersigned fully understand(s) the nature of the Biblical counseling services offered by At the Heart of the Matter Counseling, and, nevertheless, waive and release all claims for damages to their person or property arising out of or in any way related to the psychological, spiritual, and/or mental problems and the counseling directed at such problems which have brought the undersigned to At the Heart of the Matter Counseling.

The undersigned further agree(s) to indemnify, have and hold harmless BCOG, its Board of Directors, its pastors, and its agents and employees from any and all claims and damages of every kind to person or property arising out of or attributed to the spiritual, psychological, and/or mental problems which brought the undersigned to At the Heart of the Matter Counseling, or the undersigned at any point after the date of this release. It is further understood and agreed that this waiver and release constitutes an admission and acknowledgment by this undersigned that they have received no warranty, guarantee, or promise of any particular result either expressed or implied, from At the Heart of the Matter Counseling, or BCOG, or its pastors, agents, representatives, employees or Board of Directors. The undersigned parties acknowledge and agree that the very nature of their problem(s) is necessarily such that no specific result(s) can be promised or warranted by any such ministry or counseling service.

This release contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto, and the terms of this waiver and release are contractual and not mere recital. The undersigned further states they have carefully read the foregoing release, know the contents thereof, and sign the same of their own free act and deed.

Signed on this day of AD, 20 , at Asheville , North Carolina

Signed By Counselee: _____

Counselor: _____

Copy to be kept in Counselee's File