Pastoral Medical Association International

COMMUNICANTS REQUEST FOR SERVICES

Welcome to "Pastoral Medicine". We look forward to helping you and want to first make sure you are fully informed about pastoral medicine, what to expect and the conditions that are necessary to allow us to provide assistance to you. Please read this agreement carefully and signify your understanding and agreement by placing your signature at the bottom.

DISCLOSURE: YOU ARE NOT *JOINING* ANY RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION, agreeing to any religious belief or otherwise. The PMA, [hereinafter "PMA"] is a non denominational Christian, private ecclesiastical jurisdiction that regulates the practice of pastoral medicine, and its member practitioners, referred to as "Licensee's", [hereinafter "Licensee"]. Under PMA jurisdictional rules, Licensee's may (except in certain cases) only provide pastoral services under private agreement to individuals that have requested to receive such pastoral services by executing this agreement. Those seeking services (You) are referred to as Communicants, [hereinafter "Communicant"], which simply signifies that you have agreed to communicate with the Licensee under the terms and conditions listed in this agreement. This is necessary to insure that all Parties [hereinafter "Parties"] (and meaning all Parties to this agreement) have clearly expressed their desire to share in pastoral based health services under private contract, which prevents interference in our relationship by any person or agency. The relationship between the Parties shall be ruled by this "Contract", which specifies the recourse available to you if you are unhappy with the services you receive. For your information; the PMA issues credentials to candidates that have met the standards established for pastoral medical practitioners, and these Licensee's are thereafter *classified as clergy* that provide specialized ministerial services. Licensee's are held accountable to strict standards and ethics, and as "pastoral" practitioners are accountable also to the high standards of scripture. Nevertheless, the PMA cannot possibly know if a licensee's training, ability or services are suitable for any particular person or situation, therefore the PMA in no way warrants, guarantee's or accepts responsibility for any services provided by licensee's, nor accepts responsibility for your success, failure or satisfaction with any licensee or his or her services. No agreement made between the Communicant and Licensee shall in any event override, alter or invalidate any of the terms of this agreement.

THE PRACTICE OF PASTORAL MEDICINE: *The complete definition of Pastoral Medicine may be viewed* under "Statutes" on the PMA website at www.pmai.us. The following is an abreviated definition for purposes of this agreement; *The practice of pastoral medicine includes* counsel, evaluation, examination, education, instruction and assistance based on scripture, Biblically valid scientific principles, laboratory wellness testing and computerized procedures; to establish and institute corrective measures, including the application of sacred natural substances, spiritual agents, therapies and prayer to ameliorate conditions and behavior that results in, or that may potentially result in dysfunction in the physical, mental and spiritual components of human health. **THE PRACTICE OF PASTORAL MEDICINE DOES NOT INCLUDE;** The diagnosis or treatment of disease as defined and regulated by governmental agencies, or the prescription or administration of controlled substances except in the case of missionary services provided under appropriate authority; or any governement controlled occupation or practice.

PRIVATE SERVICE & PERMISSIONS: The advice, assistance and services Communicant may receive from Licensee are inclusive of any examination, evaluation, test or otherwise that Communicant request or grants permission to Licensee to perform. The granting of permission by a Communicant is defined as the "granting of a private license" or private contract, to do for Communicant those acts and procedures that Communicant could legally perform on, or for him or herself. Communicant shall have the right to be informed of the need, reason and cost of any recommended procedure, test or examination before services are provided, and to accept or refuse any service.

GOVERNMENT ISSUED HEALTH CARE LICENSE OR PERMIT: If the PMA Licensee that you choose to assist you also holds any government license or permit to provide conventional health care services of any type, such services are not covered under this agreement, or within the scope of practice of a pastoral practitioner, and if provided, shall be provided as a completely separate service. All records for pastoral services are confidential as noted below, and will not be filed with your conventional medical records, nor available to any person or agency outside this private ecclesiastical jurisdiction. Any complaint or otherwise that you may have for any conventional medical services provided to you should be filed with the appropriate agency and not with the PMA. We cannot advise, assist or receive any request, complaint or otherwise for conventional medical services. If you believe the Licensee has violated any standard of the PMA you should file a complaint as provided on the PMA website.

CONFIDENTIALITY: Licensee's are pastoral, and any information you provide as a Communicant is considered Confessional (confidential). As such, and in all events and all cases except as otherwise noted herein, Licensee is required to declare privilege from disclosure on behalf of Communicant concerning any and all communication with Communicant or Communicant records. As a standard rule (which may vary by state) if the Licensee becomes aware of information concerning criminal activity, abuse, danger, harm or threatened harm to you or others, Licensee may be responsible to report such to the proper authorities. In no event may Licensee be required to disclose information regarding Communicant, even at the request of Communicant directly, if the Licensee determines that such disclosure would not be in the best interest of the Communicant and this rule will be absolute under ecclesiastical privilege.

COMPLAINTS & RECOURSE: The PMA is a private ecclesiastical jurisdiction and as such is granted the exclusive authority to mediate any disagreement, harm, claimed harm, or violation of the standards, rules and ethics of this jurisdiction, and, to decide or rule in any matter of dispute or disagreement between the Parties. In the event Communicant is dissatisfied with services provided by Licensee or otherwise, Communicant is entitled to file a formal complaint with the PMA. Upon complaint, PMA procedures will be followed to insure fair and scripturally valid resolution of all grievances. In no event will Communicant or Licensee, or others acting on their behalf or at their direction; act, cause, facilitate or participate in any manner to breech or allow any person or agency to come between the Parties in this agreed contact, or, move any complaint or action to a judicial level, outside of or beyond this ecclesiastical jurisdiction. The decision of the PMA in resolving a dispute will be the final, exclusive remedy and may include sanction on a licensee for violation of PMA standards, order to return of all or any portion of monies paid by Communicant, or as otherwise deemed appropriate. The ultimate remedy that may be handed down by the PMA shall be Banishment from this Jurisdiction of any Communicant or Licensee. It is hereby understood that Communicants exclusive remedy is outlined herein, and that no other punitive or compensatory reimbursement or award of any kind will be sought or due. In all cases Parties will observe the intent of this private agreement, which is the right to contract privately and to be bound to the terms of such private contract, including observance of all PMA standards, rules and regulations, and shall in all cases defend the right of Parties to conduct private relationships under this contract without interference by any individual or agency not a direct Party to this relationship.

ENTIRE AGREEMENT: This Agreement constitutes the entire contract between the parties with regard to the subject matter hereof, and replaces and supersedes all other agreements or understandings, whether written or oral. No amendment or extension of this Agreement shall be binding unless in writing and signed by all Parties. Any of the Parties may terminate services and the private relationship with Communicant at any time in writing and without cause, however, each will continue to be bound forever to the terms herein for all communications and services in whatever form that occurred prior to such termination just the same as if termination never occurred.

With My Signature, I hereby understand and agree with the terms herein, and request services from: _____
Licensee name

_____	_____	_____
Communicant Name	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Witness Name	Signature	Date