### **Informed Consent Overview**

Brian O'Sullivan, LMFT

Please refer to the consent forms for complete terms, as they take precedence over this summary.

## **Confidentiality:**

Conversations are confidential, with some exceptions like risk of harm to self/others, mandated reporting of abuse, and other exceptions. Japanese confidentiality laws differ from the U.S. & there are mandating reporting considerations for SOFA status.

# **Therapy Process:**

Therapy is a collaborative effort focused on your goals. Initial sessions assess fit and create a treatment plan, with regular check-ins on progress. There are some risks in therapy.

## **Legal Matters:**

Brian avoids legal involvement; however, if subpoenaed, records may be released. Any required legal proceedings will incur fees.

## **Ending Therapy:**

You can end therapy anytime. Therapy may also end if there's no contact for 21 days or repeated missed sessions.

## Office Hours and Emergencies:

Office hours are Tuesday-Friday, 8 am to 4 pm JST. For emergencies, use local emergency services.

### **Communication Policies:**

- **Email:** Email is best to contact me, using encrypted Hushmail. No texting is available.
- Social Media: Please no contact on social media to maintain confidentiality.

# Payments & Fees:

- Session costs are outlined in the consent forms.
- Payment is due at the start of each session; late cancellation fees apply for notice under 24 hours.
- Brian does not communicate to insurance directly and reimbursement is not guaranteed.

## **Privacy & Data Storage:**

Records are stored securely online for at least seven years, in U.S., Canada, and other international data storage locations.

#### **Telehealth:**

Sessions can be online for clients in Japan or California. Telehealth involves privacy and other risks.

## **Good Faith Estimate:**

An estimated cost outline for therapy services is provided to help you plan. Rates and details are reviewed with you.