**Andrea F Guzman, LMFT, SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

This document outlines Andrea F Guzman's policies related to use of Social Media. Please read it to understand how I conduct myself on the Internet as a mental health professional and how clients and others can expect me to respond to various interactions that may occur between us on the Internet. If you are a current client and have any questions, I encourage you to bring them up when we meet.

The views expressed on my websites, podcast and/or social media outlets are my own. The goal of my website, podcast and social media presence is to advertise my business, share resources and promote mental health awareness. Information on my website, my social media websites and all social media are never a replacement for psychotherapy with a licensed therapist. If you are experiencing distress or a psychiatric emergency, please contact your therapist (myself) or crisis service, 911, or go to the nearest ER.

**Friending and Interacting** I do not accept friend or contact requests from current or former clients on any social networking site (Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, etc.). I believe that adding clients as friends or contacts on these sites can compromise your confidentiality and my respective privacy. It may also blur the boundaries of our therapeutic relationship. Please bring up any concerns or questions in therapy.

You are welcome to view my social media accounts and read or share information posted there, but I will not encourage comments from clients in those platforms. This is to protect your confidentiality. I will also remove information from clients that may compromise their confidentiality as I become aware of it. Engaging with me in this way could compromise your confidentiality. It may also create the possibility that these exchanges become a part of your legal medical record and will need to be documented and archived in your chart.

If you need to contact me between sessions, the best way to do so is by phone. Direct email is second best for brief, administrative issues such as changing appointment times. Please refer to our Email and Text Policy for more information regarding electronic communications.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I have made this policy adapted from both the model Social Media Policy by Keely Kolme PsyD and Mr. Sean Erreger, LCSW published on their websites.

~updated 5/22/2023