

## Client Bill of Rights

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Lori Nicholson, Master Hypnotist

As a Master Hypnotist, I abide by the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice of the National Guild of Hypnotists (NGH). The NGH is the oldest and largest hypnotism organization in the world, and its certification is the most widely recognized credential for the professional practice of hypnotism. The following is a Client Bill of Rights which follows guidelines provided by the NGH. Please review, sign and date the document prior to your first session.

**Contact Information:** My name is Lori Nicholson and I can be reached at 301-365-2428 or [lori@wellawakenedliving.com](mailto:lori@wellawakenedliving.com).

**Education and Training:** I received my basic hypnosis training (Certified Hypnotist) in 2011 at the Washington DC Hypnosis Center, an NGH-approved training organization. I received my Master Hypnotist training in a 2017 training course taught jointly by Work Smart Hypnosis and Atlantic Hypnosis Institute, both of which are highly respected NGH-approved organizations. I am a certified member in good standing of the NGH—the “Gold Standard” organization for hypnosis training and ethics. Additionally, I earned my Basic Practitioner of Neurolinguistic Programming (NLP) certification in 2015 from The National Federation of Neurolinguistic Programming; and my Licensed Master Practitioner of Neuro-Linguistic Programming in 2017 from Empowerment Quest International, one of the only organizations approved by Richard Bandler (one of the two co-founders of NLP) to provide training and certification. I have furthered my training and skills through becoming a Certified Practitioner of Integral Eye Movement Therapy (IEMT) for trauma release in 2014 from The Association for IEMT Practitioners. Additional certifications include: Fertility Consultant (2012), Parts Therapy (2013), Smoking Cessation (2014), Virtual Gastric Band (2015), Life Coach (2018), and Dynamic Pain Elimination (2019). I am a member in good standing with each of these organizations, and I regularly earn the annual continuing education hours which are required to maintain my certifications and which improve my knowledge and skill. My highest degree is a Master of Public Administration/Public Policy Analysis degree, with a focus on International Health, from The University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill (1993).

**My Philosophy:** My belief is that hypnosis is a very powerful tool for making positive changes in your life. I am honored to work with you as a partner in your learning and growing. My intention is to guide you on your self-healing journey, working interactively with you from a place of neutrality. I am not a licensed psychologist, and therefore do not provide traditional psychological counseling. If I feel that a psychologist would be helpful to you, I will provide you with a referral.

**NGH Disclosure:** AS THE STATE OF MARYLAND HAS NOT ADOPTED EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING STANDARDS FOR THE PRACTICE OF HYPNOTISM, THIS STATEMENT OF CREDENTIALS IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. Hypnotism is a self-regulating profession and its practitioners are not licensed by state governments. I am neither a physician nor a licensed health care provider and may not provide a medical diagnosis nor recommend discontinuance of medically prescribed treatments. If you desire a diagnosis or any other type of treatment from a different practitioner, you may seek such services at any time. In the event my services are terminated by you, you have the right to coordinated transfer of services to another practitioner. You have the right to refuse hypnotism services at any time. You have the right to be free of physical, verbal, or sexual abuse. You have the right to know the expected duration of sessions, and may assert any right without retaliation.

**Redress:** If you ever have a complaint about my services or behavior that we cannot resolve ourselves, you may contact the National Guild of Hypnotists at: P.O. Box 308, Merrimack, NH 03054-0308, 603-429-9438, to seek redress. Other services than my own may be available to you in the community. You may locate such providers in the telephone book or online.

**Confidentiality:** I will not release any information to anyone without a written authorization from you, except as provided for by law. You have the right to be allowed access to my written record of our sessions.

**Insurance:** Consulting hypnotism is motivational coaching by means of hypnotism and is not considered health care. Thus, in general, insurance companies do not cover hypnosis sessions, and I caution you not to expect them to do so. Please expect to pay out-of-pocket for your sessions.

**Fees and Payments:** My fees are \$200 per session. New clients are seen for a minimum of three sessions in order to have the best effect and to prompt lasting, positive change. The initial three sessions therefore cost  $\$200 * 3 = \$600$ . If paid for up-front and in-full, a \$50 administrative discount will be granted, making the three-session package \$550. Most issues can be healed within the initial three-session package; however, if you feel that additional sessions would be helpful following the initial three sessions, you may then schedule additional sessions at the prevailing rate of \$200/session.

Virtual Gastric Band clients will receive a four-session protocol which includes a professionally edited and mixed audio track to listen to at home. The total package cost is \$800; if paid for up-front and in-full, a \$50 administrative discount is granted, making the total cost \$750. The protocol is complete following the initial four-session package; however, if you feel that additional sessions would be helpful following the initial four sessions, you may then schedule additional sessions at the prevailing rate of \$200/session.

All sessions are scheduled for two hours; sessions themselves run from 1½-2 hours. No-shows and late cancellations (within 24 hours of the scheduled appointment) are responsible for 50% of the session fee (i.e., \$100). This charge will not apply in the case of a genuine emergency. You will be given 30 days' notice prior to any change in fees. Payment may be made by check, cash, or credit card. If you are paying by check, please be certain that you have adequate funds in your account to cover the payment. There will be a \$30 fee for all checks returned due to insufficient funds. If that occurs, you are responsible for making payment in full via cash, bank check, or money order.

**Client Signature:** I have received and read this Client Bill of Rights and understand what I have read.

Client Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Client Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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