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MEMORANDUM

TO: MCCMH-Childrens
FROM: Ron Laszczak, Assistant Corporation Counsel
DATE: December 6, 2023
RE: Age of Consent for a Minor Seeking MH Services

Issue: What is the age of consent for a minor to seek mental health services and what parameters is a mental health professional bound by.

Law: Pursuant to MCL 330.1707, a minor who is 14 years of age or older may seek mental health services without the consent of its parent, guardian, or loco parentis so as long as all of the following apply:

1. The minor is only receiving outpatient mental health services, and
2. There is no use or prescribing psychotropic medications, and
3. Mental health services do not include the consulting of referring pregnancy termination, and
4. There is no substantial probability of harm to the minor or to another individual, and if so, the minor must be informed of the professional's intent to notify the parent, guardian or loco parentis, and
5. Must promote to the extend possible, the minor's relationship to the parent, guardian or loco parentis and shall not undermine the values sought by the parent or guardian, and
6. Services provided shall be limited to no more than 12 sessions or 4 months, and
 - a. If after the 12th session or 4th month, the mental health professional shall terminate services, or, with the consent of the minor, notify the parent, guardian, or loco parentis, to obtain consent to provide further outpatient services.
7. Minor's parent, guardian, or loco parentis is not liable for the cost of the services, and
8. This does not relieve the mental health professional from his or her duty to report suspected child abuse or neglect under the child protection law.

Respectfully,

Ron Laszczak

Ron Laszczak

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