

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD of MASSAGE THERAPY

CODE OF ETHICS

1. **Represent** their qualifications honestly, including education and professional affiliations, and provide only those services, which they are qualified to perform.
2. **Accurately** inform clients, other health care practitioners, and the public of the scope and limitations of their discipline.
3. **Acknowledge** the limitations of and contraindications for massage and bodywork and refer clients to appropriate health professionals.
4. **Consistently** maintain and improve professional knowledge and competence, striving for professional excellence through regular assessment of personal and professional strengths and weaknesses and through continued education training.
5. **Conduct** their business and professional activities with honesty and integrity, and respect the inherent worth of all persons.
6. **Refuse** to unjustly discriminate against clients or other ethical health professionals.
7. **Provide** draping and treatment in a way that ensures the safety, comfort and privacy of the client. Provide and use draping to cover all genitalia and female breast unless prior written consent is given for breast massage.
8. **Respect** the client's right to therapy with informed and voluntary consent.
9. **Respect** the client's right to refuse, modify, or terminate therapy regardless of prior consent given.
10. **Exercise** the right to refuse to treat any person or part of the body for just and reasonable cause.
11. **Refrain**, under all circumstances, from initiating or engaging in any romantic or sexual conduct, sexual activities, or sexualizing behavior involving a client, even if the client attempts to sexualize the relationship.
12. **Respect** the client's boundaries with regard to privacy, disclosure, exposure, emotional expression, beliefs, and the client's reasonable expectations of professional behavior. Practitioners will respect the client's autonomy.
13. **Safeguard** the confidentiality of all client information, unless disclosure is required by law, court order, or absolutely necessary for the protection of the public.