KATHERINE V. HICKS, D.D.S., P.C.

NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED

PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY THE PRIVACY OF YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT TO US

We are required by applicable federal and state law to maintain the privacy of your health and information. We are also required to give you this Notice about our privacy practices, our legal duties, and your rights concerning your health information. We must follow the privacy practices that are described in this Notice.

We reserve the right to change our privacy practices and the terms of the Notice at any time, provided such changes are permitted by applicable law. Before we make a significant change in our privacy practices, we will change this Notice and make the new Notice available upon request.

USES AND DISCLOSURES OF HEALTH INFORMATION

We use and disclose health information about you for treatment, payment, and healthcare operations. For example:

<u>Treatment:</u> We may use or disclose your health information to a physician or other healthcare provider providing treatment to you.

<u>Payment:</u> We may use or disclose your health information to obtain payment for services we provide you.

Healthcare Operations: We may use and disclose your health information for treatment, payment, or healthcare operations. Healthcare operations include quality assessment and improvement activities, reviewing the competence or qualifications of healthcare professionals, evaluating practitioner and provider performance, conducting training programs, accreditation, certification, licensing, or credentialing activities.

Your Authorization: In addition to our use of your health information for your treatment, payment or healthcare operations, you may give us written authorization to use your health information or to disclose it to anyone for any purpose. If you give us an authorization, you may revoke it in writing at anytime. Your revocation will not affect any use or disclosures permitted by your authorization while it was in effect. Unless you give us a written authorization, we cannot use or disclose your health information for any reason except those described in this Notice.

<u>To Your Family and Friends:</u> We must disclose your health information to you, as described in the Patient Rights section of this Notice. We may disclose your health information to a family member, friend, or other person to the extent necessary to help with your healthcare or with payment for your healthcare, but only if you agree that we may do so.

<u>Persons Involved In Care:</u> We may use or disclose health information to notify, or assist in the notification of (including identifying or locating) a family member, your personal representative or another person responsible for your care, of your location, your general condition, or death. If you are present, then prior use or disclosure of your health information, we will provide you with an opportunity to object to such uses or disclosures. In the event of your incapacity or emergency circumstances, we will disclose health information that is directly relevant to the person's involvement in your healthcare. We will also use our professional judgement and our experience with common practice to make reasonable interferences of your best interest in allowing a person to pick up filled prescriptions, medical supplies, x-rays, or other similar forms of health information.

<u>Marketing Health-Related Services:</u> We will not use your health information for marketing communications without your written consent.

Required by Law, Abuse or Neglect: We may use or disclose your health information to appropriate authorities if we reasonably believe that you are a possible victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence or the possible victim of other crimes. We may disclose your health information to the extent necessary to avert a serious threat to your health or safety or the health and safety of others.

<u>National Security:</u> We may disclose to the military authorities the health information Armed Forces personnel under certain circumstances. We may disclose, to authorized federal officials, health information required for law intelligence, counterintelligence, and other national security activities. We may disclose to correctional institution or law enforcement official having lawful custody of protected health information of inmate or patient under certain circumstances.

Appointment Reminders: We may use or disclose your health information to provide you with appointment reminders (such as voicemail messages, postcards, or letters).

Photo Consent: I hereby give Katherine Hicks, and employees of Katherine V. Hicks, D.D.S. the right and permission to use and/or publish photographs of me for art and promotional purposes, including but not limited to: advertising, publicity, commercial or office display of use. I also authorize my photos to be posted on social media such as our practice website or Facebook page.