

**River City Psychiatry, Inc,
115 Johnston St. SE
Suite 202
Decatur, AL 35601**

HIPPA Privacy Policies

Protected Health Information (PHI): Definition: An individual's health/medical information (including payment for healthcare) is combined with information that identifies the individual. This information includes personal information, demographic information and information related to health status, services received or healthcare payment.

The use and disclosure of PHI is limited to the minimum necessary to accomplish the intended purpose. **HIPPA REGULATIONS DO NOT SUPERSEDE STATE LAWS THAT ARE MORE RESTRICTIVE IN REGARDS TO SAFEGUARDING PHI.**

River City Psychiatry, Inc. does not participate in any provider network, therefore no PHI is disclosed for billing purposes unless done so by the patient/parent.

River City Psychiatry, Inc. does not utilize electronic medical records. There is no information kept electronically that identifies a person as a patient (including no diagnosis, medications, pharmacy numbers).

River City Psychiatry, Inc. secures patient files in a locked and enclosed area. It is the responsibility of River City Psychiatry, Inc. to inform a patient and/or parent if there is a suspected breach of privacy.

Patient Rights and Responsibilities: Patients have a right to expect reasonable levels of confidentiality. A child 14 years old or older determine who may or may not inspect his or her record. Parents of children under 14 years old have a right to request to inspect and/or copy their child's medical record. The physician may or may not approve the request of either the patient or the parent. Typically, the physician will refuse to release treatment records if doing so is not in the child's best interest and/or risks direct harm to the child. A parent/child has the right to appeal a physician's decision regarding PHI by written request and discussion with the physician or through the federal department of Health and Human Services.

The patient and/or parent is responsible for apprising River City Psychiatry, Inc. of preferred contact numbers, whether messages can be left, or how communication is mailed.

For further information about HIPPA, please consult the Federal Register regarding HIPPA law, and the State of Alabama Department of Health.

If you have questions about this policy, please call Dr. Brown.