

# Risk Management in Psychological Practice

Mental health professionals are affected by the fact that we live in an age of litigation; if clients are dissatisfied with the outcome of an evaluation or treatment, they may file an ethics complaint or a law suit with increased frequency compared to the past. Malpractice insurance premiums have increased by more than a factor of 10 over the past few decades. As a result, many practitioners are "running scared", fearful of complaints. In point of fact, very few of these legal actions are successful; while going through them is unpleasant, if a mental health practitioner adheres to a few basic principles of risk management, the likelihood of a successful suit is vastly diminished. This webinar will present these basic principles within a framework of the fundamental legal concepts involved, and how these concepts may be easily incorporated into practice guidelines. Special attention will be paid to confidentiality and privilege, the nature of malpractice claims, informed consent, documentation, consultation, the most frequent areas of litigation, and concrete steps to take to minimize the risk of litigation.

## Target Audience

Psychologists      Social Workers      Counselors  
Therapists      Psychiatrists      Nurses  
Course Level: Intermediate

## Learning Objectives

- At the end of this seminar, participants will be able to:
1. Identify the major issues regarding privilege and waiver of privilege
  2. Define the elements of a malpractice claim
  3. Name the major areas of malpractice litigation
  4. Identify specific risk management strategies to reduce the risk of malpractice
  5. Identify major defenses against malpractice litigation

## How To Register:

On-Line at [tzkseminars.com](http://tzkseminars.com)

Register On-Line for only \$69

## Outline

Begin 1 PM ET

Ethics complaints  
Malpractice Lawsuits  
The results of Lawsuits  
Risk Management  
Confidentiality

Break 2:30-2:45 PM ET

Privilege  
Informed Consent  
Documentation  
Consultation

End 4:15 PM ET

Our seminars are available in two formats. The first is a live, interactive webinar. If the webinar time is not convenient for you, you can purchase the Home Study version. It is a recorded version of the webinar. You will have to pass a test to earn CE's for both the live webinar and the Home Study version.

### Continuing Education Credit

To earn CE's, you must attend the entire webinar. No partial credit is available. For both the webinar and the home study version, you will have to pass a post-test with 80% correct and complete a seminar evaluation to earn the certificate. You can take the test up to three times. Participants will earn 3 CE's for attending once they have completed these requirements.

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## The Presenter

Dr. David Shapiro has been called the Father of clinical forensic psychology. His first book on forensic assessment appeared in 1983 and was the only book at that time to approach forensic assessment from the point of view of actual issues encountered in practice rather than from a theoretical basis. Since that time, he has authored five more textbooks and four dozen peer reviewed articles dealing with the interface of psychology and law. His comprehensive approach to forensic assessment has been widely distributed and used as models for various books and training programs.

Dr. Shapiro is a Diplomate in Forensic Psychology of the American Board of Professional Psychology and has been actively engaged in forensic practice for over forty years. He is currently a Professor of psychology at Nova Southeastern University and teaches courses in forensic assessment, criminal law, ethics and professional practice, supervision and consultation, projective personality assessment, and risk assessment for future violence. He regularly provides forensic and ethics training at a variety of national forums, including APA and ABPP.

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This seminar has been reviewed and approved by Keith Hannan, Ph.D., Laura Davie, LICSW, Tina Jenkins, Psy.D., and Loreen Yearick, MSN, RN. This approval expires on March 1, 2028.

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