

## Agenda

### Legal and Ethical Considerations in Clinical Professional Relationships Pamela Harmell, Ph.D.

**Note: All Times are Pacific Time**

9:00 - 9:10 Welcome and Introduction

**9:10 – 10:30 Introduction to legal and ethical professional relationships**

- Four elements holding therapists accountable for their professional work
- Format for ethical decision making
- Proper intake
- Format for crisis intervention

10:30 -10:40 Break

**10:40 – 12:10 Conflicting therapist values and maintaining boundaries**

- Therapist values in relationship to clients
- Value neutrality related to diversity
- Use of “bracketing”
- Critical precedent setting cases related to patient discrimination
- Professional boundaries
- Supervision and value issues
- Delayed discovery rule
- Writing letters for clients

12:10 – 12:50 Lunch

**12:50 – 2:20 Suicide, social media and substance abuse**

- Suicide – Legal and Ethical issues
- Opioid use, suicide, and social media
- NSSI – Non Suicidal Self Injury
- Suicide statistics
- Prevention

2:20 - 2:30 Break

**2:30 – 4:00 Proper termination and preventing patient abandonment**

- Proper termination
- Prevention of abandonment
- How to assess when to terminate
- Potential termination letter to client
- Sum up questions