

**INFORMED CONSENT**

**What You Can Expect**

R.E.A.C.H. provides a free initial consultation (up to 45 minutes) over the phone. Be aware there is a limit as to how much we can cover in 45 minutes. If you become a client, any initial consultation time over 45 minutes will appear in your first month's invoice.

During the initial consultation we will mutually determine whether I can perform a service that might benefit your child. Obtaining Advocacy services is a wise decision because school districts also resource a cadre of professionals (including lawyers) to support their decisions. Although there are many laws and regulations that protect the educational rights of children (0-22 years old), districts are only legally required to provide your child with what is unique to him/her, not necessarily what is best. If I do not believe you have a defensible position/case I will tell you. I represent R.E.A.C.H. as an ethical service, not a means to a financial end. If we mutually agree I should be retained, you will be asked to sign this document, which-once executed with your signature-will become a legal contract.

My fee is \$75.00 an hour. Upon my discretion I may utilize a sliding scale, or charge a project vs. hourly fee. I require a \$300.00 retainer with the exception of pro bono work. The retainer covers expenses associated with initiating advocacy services including information gathering, reviewing and interpreting assessments, etc.

I will rarely perform a service without consulting you first. Your consent to the service(s) will serve as an acknowledgment and obligation to pay for the service(s). We both reserve the right to terminate service(s) at any time, with no further obligation to the contract outside of compensation for previously unpaid service(s). Your invoice will include a description of service(s); date; rate; and total due. When there has been a service provided on your child's behalf you will receive an invoice at the end of that month. Payment is expected upon receipt of your invoice unless previous arrangements have been made. Once you receive an invoice, you must pay that month's invoice before I will perform work in the following month. I can be reached Monday - Friday (unless prior arrangements have been made) between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. by phone, and anytime by text/email. If your need requires more than a few minutes of communication it will appear as a fraction of an hour on your invoice (i.e. .25, .50, etc.).

Retaining an educational advocate, as with a lawyer, is not a guarantee that your child will prevail. However, you have a reasonable right to expect that your child's rights will be protected, and that you will receive support commensurate with the certifications, education, and experience advertised on this website. As part of your service(s) I may need to confer with other professionals. All educational, medical, psychological and legal documents are confidential and protected by law. A signature from a parent or guardian (unless a child is 18 years old, or legally emancipated) will be required to obtain access to these documents. Additional permission with a signature would be required for sharing information between colleagues, health professionals, etc. (i.e. IEEs, etc.).

Signing this document constitutes you acknowledge, understand, and consent to the stipulations above.

Client Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Client Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Tax Account No. 422599