



When is it ok to break confidentiality? What are steps to follow?

1. If the client is **suicidal**:

- It is very appropriate and ok to ask the client:
Are you suicidal or have you thought about hurting yourself?
Do you have a plan on how you would do it?
- Immediately seek assistance from supervisor or higher authority at the agency you are working with.
- Call 911 if client needs immediate assistance even if you have a doubt.
- Call 1-800-273-TALK (8255) and make sure client has this phone number to call if they need to talk.

2. If the client threatens **homicide** or plans to seriously hurt someone.

- Immediately seek assistance from supervisor or higher authority at the agency you are working with.

3. If a client shares that they are **physically abusing** a child or dependant adult

- Immediately seek assistance from supervisor or higher authority at the agency you are working with.