**Emma Yoder Doula Services, LLC**

 Birth Doula & Yoga Instructor RYT200

 (484) 651-9581

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**Doula Contract**

**General Definition of a Doula**

We understand that:

• A doula accompanies a woman in labor to help ensure a satisfying birth experience.

• A doula works for us, not our care provider or hospital.

• A doula does not perform clinical tasks such as blood pressure or fetal heart rate monitoring. She does provide physical, emotional and educational support.

**General Information About Emma Yoder**

We understand that Emma Yoder:

• Draws on her knowledge and experience to provide emotional support, physical comfort, and communication with the medical staff to make sure we have the information we need to make informed decisions during labor.

• Can provide reassurance and perspective to us, make suggestions to help labor progress, and help with relaxation, massage, positioning, and other techniques for comfort.

• Is independent and self-employed.

• Is a certified Yoga Instructor that can provide additional support perinatal and postpartum

**Obligations of the Doula**

We understand that:

• Emma will be on call for us 24 hours a day beginning two weeks before the estimated due date (EDD) and ending two weeks after the EDD or with the birth of our child, whichever comes first. Emma will carry her cell phone with her at all times during this four-week period.

Exceptions: Emma may be unavailable if she is already with another contracted doula client who is in active labor (Emma agrees not to accept more than two clients with due dates within two weeks of each other) If this is the case, you will be refunded $400.00.

• Emma will make every effort to attend our birth; however, the exceptions above or unforeseen circumstances could prevent her from attending our birth.

**Services Provided by the Doula**

We understand that Emma:

• Will meet with us at least once or twice before the birth to discuss the birth.

• Will provide birth plan information and consultation if desired.

• Will answer questions and make suggestions by email or telephone anytime before labor begins.

• Will provide early labor support by phone, or possibly in your home as requested.

• Will remain with us once active labor has begun until one to two hours after the baby is born.

• Will use non-medical support techniques for labor and birth.

• Will respect the important role of the partner and other support people, and will assist these people to be involved in supporting the laboring mother to the degree they are able and desire to do so. Doulas do not replace partners.

• Will strive to maintain a calm and peaceful birth environment.

• Will photograph labor, birth, and the time after birth if desired and time and circumstances permit.

**Our Obligations as Clients**

We understand that we:

• Will educate ourselves about labor and birth.

• Will call Emma when we think labor may be starting, even if we are not sure, so that she may make arrangements to be available as needed.

• We will allow Emma approximately one hour's time to reach the hospital or our home.

• It is our responsibility to ensure that Emma is allowed to attend us at all times, as desired, while at the hospital.

• The fee is $800, including a $400 deposit to be paid at the time this contract is signed. The remaining $400 will be owed at the second prenatal visit. If the first prenatal visit is after 36 weeks, then the $800 will be owed in full.

• If our birth was offered as complimentary, and we fail to notify Emma within 3 weeks before our EDD that we would not like to have her present at our birth, $400 will be owed as compensation for Emma’s time.

• In the event of a scheduled (non-emergency) labor induction or cesarean birth, we will take Emma’s schedule into consideration if we wish her to attend the birth.

• In the event of a cesarean birth, the medical staff may allow Emma to remain with us during the surgery to provide information and support. If we desire this, we will explain this request to hospital staff (**the request will not be considered coming from the doula, only from the parents**).

**Failure of the Doula to Provide Service**

We understand that:

• Emma will make every effort to provide the services described here.

• In the case of a rapid birth or medical emergency, it may be impossible for Emma to provide these services.

• If Emma does not attend the birth due to an error on her part, you will be refunded $400.

• If unforeseen circumstances arise and Emma is not able to attend the birth, then a mutual financial agreement will be made.

• If we fail to call Emma for whatever reason, no refunds will be in place.

We, the undersigned, state that we have discussed and reviewed our wishes with our doula, Emma Yoder. We understand that the birth may not go as we hope or plan, but that Emma Yoder will do her best to provide doula care regardless of the course labor takes.

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Client Date

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Client Date

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Doula Date