The Baby Lady

"Your Ultimate Birth Resource"
Michelle Rickard CD (DONA)
253-709-0361

CESAREAN DOULA CONTRACT

Doula Services: _____Adoption _____Cesarean

Birth Doula Roles:

I will meet with you prenatally to get to know you and to understand what is important to you about your birth and discuss ways we can work together to achieve your goals. I will help provide the information you need to make your own decisions. I am available 24/7 to answer any questions. I will provide 1 prenatal visit (up to 2 hours in length) and 1- 2 postpartum visits. In labor, I will help you be more comfortable and confident through reassuring communication, comfort measures, positioning, and massage. I will stay with you throughout labor and delivery (as allowed) and in the early postpartum time. For postpartum visits, I will call and/or visit you in your home to discuss the birth and answer any questions you may have.

I **DO NOT** take the place of your partner; rather, we work together as an effective birthing team, I help to guide him (should you have one) through the process of birth and how he can help you. I will always encourage your partner to actively participate in your birthing process. I **require** that you contact me via email or cell phone with updates regarding your prenatal care so that I can better serve you and your needs. It is best to contact me following each prenatal visit with your provider even if there are no changes.

Please allow 1-2 hours response time for your birth. General response time is 30-45 minutes for most locations and I make the best effort possible to respond promptly. I also **require** that you call me as soon as you are able to upon arrival at the hospital/Birth Center. In order for me to provide the best service for you, I must be informed, therefore, it is imperative that you contact me with your status.

If you have an emergency cesarean birth, you are still obligated to pay for these services. I will support you as I am allowed during the birth, if I am not allowed to attend the birth (by your doctor or hospital) I will be waiting for you in recovery to help with breastfeeding and post-operative care. Inductions and cesareans that are requested or required due to fetal or maternal risk **ARE** supported.

As a doula, The Baby Lady LLC provides only **non-medical support.** I do not perform clinical tasks, such as blood pressure, fetal heart tone checks, vaginal exams, etc. **I cannot legally or ethically support an unassisted home birth (birth at home, with no midwife or OB present). Should you change your birth plans after the signing of this contract, all monies paid are non-refundable.**

Payment:

Payment for my services shall be received in two parts. A **non-refundable** 50% deposit is due at the signing of this contract. This will ensure that I give you top priority over other clients within the 14 days around your due date. The remaining 50% balance is due at first postpartum visit. Should a client request to terminate my services at any time, all services shall be terminated immediately; however, **all monies paid by the client will be considered non-refundable**. Total cost for services will be $_____

Inability to provide service:

I make every effort to provide the services as described above, although sometimes it is impossible (for example, with a rapid labor or emergency c-section). In this case, there is no refund. Prenatal education and some labor support services may have been provided and postpartum services are still available. If you fail to call me, I will keep all monies paid and any remaining balance will be due.
I make every effort to provide you with a backup Doula, however, if no Doula is available for your birth due to my error, I will refund 25% and 75% is kept for education and research on your birth, time invested, mileage, prenatal visits and for setting aside your date, (possibly turning away other clients). If I am unavailable and you choose NOT to have a backup, there is no refund. There is no extra charge for the backup Doula to work in place of the primary Doula.

I/we have read this contract describing the services provided by The Baby Lady LLC, and agree that it reflects the discussion I had with Michelle Rickard CD(DONA).

Signed (Client) _____ Date_____ Signed (Doula)_____ Date _____

Signed (Client) _____ Date_____