

Adult Guardianship Sample Case – 1

Veronica has petitioned the court to become her father's guardian. "Dementia" is listed as the reason for guardianship on Veronica's petition. The petition also indicates that Veronica's father lives at Lakeside Nursing Facility. You have been appointed as GAL in the matter and you call Veronica to get some basic information about the situation. During your phone conversation with Veronica, you mention that you will be calling Lakeside to set up a time to visit Veronica's father and you ask Veronica if she can meet you at nursing facility so that you will have the opportunity for a more in-depth conversation. Veronica responds that her father was very unhappy at the nursing facility and so she took him home to live with her. When you ask about the CCP-211, Veronica says that she does have a completed doctor's report and she agrees to fax a copy to you the next day. When you receive the doctor's report, you note that the doctor has written that Veronica's father is "totally incapable of making personal and financial decisions due to impaired memory, judgment and insight into medical issues and limitations." In the report, the doctor also states that the most appropriate living arrangement for the respondent is "24 hr structured living environment."

What are some initial things you might want to know when you do your investigation?

What should your first step be?

Adult Guardianship Sample Case – 2

CVLS has assigned you as GAL in a case in which Bethany would like to be appointed guardian of her son, Mark. Mark recently turned 18 years old and Bethany wrote on her petition for guardianship that Mark needs a guardian due to “disability and inability to understand the consequences of his decisions.” CVLS sent you a copy of the CCP-211 which states that Mark is cognitively and emotionally impaired due to traumatic brain injury that occurred when Mark was hit by a car when he was 9 years old. There is no one listed on Exhibit A. When you call Bethany, she tells you that her 20 year old daughter lives in the home with Bethany and Mark. Bethany also tells you that they last heard from Mark’s father approximately one year ago. When you visit the home where Bethany lives at 10am on a Tuesday morning, Mark is present and is watching television. Bethany tells you that after the accident, Mark continued attending school until about 9th grade when he communicated his desire to quit school. Bethany tells you that Mark spends most of his time at home.

What are some things you want to know as you work on your investigation?

How will you obtain that information?

Adult Guardianship Sample Case – 3

You have been appointed GAL in a case in which Jim has petitioned the court to become guardian of his uncle, Charles. The petition indicates that Charles lives in Renaissance Rehabilitation and Nursing Center. The Petition states that Charles has Alzheimer's disease. The online court docket indicates that the Cook County Sheriff attempted to serve Charles, but was unsuccessful. Exhibit A indicates that Charles' wife is deceased and that Charles has 4 adult children that all live in Chicago. When you call the Petitioner, he indicates that he was convicted of a felony in 2001 and spent 6 months in jail. When you ask Petitioner about Charles' 4 children and whether they will have any objection to the Petitioner becoming guardian for Charles, Petitioner responds that when he sent the petition to his cousins, one cousin (Sarah) called him and told him that she would prefer to be guardian for Charles.

What are some things you want to know as you work on your investigation?

How will you obtain that information?