

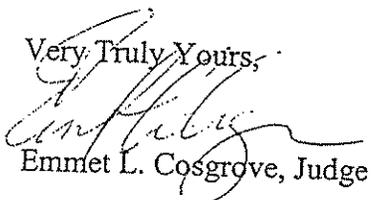
Bruce Clements, President  
May 20, 2003  
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are not the paramount concerns of the parties. A competent and dedicated AMC or GAL is essential. Other than your organization, I have very few resources I can call on to fill in these vital roles. The Windham County Bar has been generous with the donation of their time for Special Masters and accepting appointments at the state compensation rate as a GAL or AMC. The financial hardships for the attorney of such an appointment are increased if the case is actually tried. Although I have the title of presiding judge I am also the only judge assigned to hear contested family cases in Windham County. As such, I am unable to hear contested custody cases in county and must refer them for trial to the Regional Family Trial Docket in Middletown. This imposes a significant expense in terms of time and travel on the parties and the attorneys.

It is my understanding that the historical roots of your organization are in Windham County. I am sure that the citizens of Windham County are pleased by your growth and ability to serve more of Connecticut's children. They would hope that they are still within your area of service.

I would appreciate an opportunity to discuss with you the reasons and concerns that caused you to curtail services to Windham County. It is my hope that your concerns can be addressed and that coverage can be provided for the children of Windham County.

Very Truly Yours,



Emmet L. Cosgrove, Judge

ELC/pdc

cc: Francis J. Foley, III, Judge  
Joseph J. Nash, Family Relations