

DOCKET NO.: FA-

SUPERIOR COURT

JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF _____

V.

ORDER APPOINTING GUARDIAN AD LITEM FOR MINOR CHILD(REN)

Attorney _____ is appointed Guardian *ad litem* for the following minor child(ren). The Guardian *ad litem* is instructed to file his/her appearance upon receipt of this notice.

Child's Name:

Date of Birth

I. DUTIES. The G.A.L.'s duties include:

- ___ 1. Making an investigation of the facts of the child(ren)'s circumstances;
- ___ 2. Reporting good faith suspicions of child abuse;
- ___ 3. Interviewing the parties, including the child(ren);
- ___ 4. Communicating with the child(ren), parties and counsel;
- ___ 5. Verifying that court orders concerning the child(ren) are being followed;
- ___ 6. Reviewing and obtaining copies of court files, DCF, police, medical, mental health, and school records;
- ___ 7. Confering with teachers, coaches and other school authorities;
- ___ 8. Confering with family relations counselors;
- ___ 9. Confering with other professionals, including the child(ren)'s mental health provider(s);
- ___ 10. Confering with other persons involved with the child(ren);
- ___ 11. Forming an opinion regarding the child(ren)'s best interests;
- ___ 12. Encouraging settlement of disputes;
- ___ 13. Participating in settlement discussions;
- ___ 14. Participating in all hearings, status conferences and pre-trials regarding matters affecting the child(ren)'s interests;

- ___ 15. Participating in hearings involving the parties' interests which affect the child(ren) involving ___ Exclusive Possession, ___ Child Support, ___ general property and financial issues;
- ___ 16. Testifying as necessary;
- ___ 17. Protecting the child(ren)'s rights of confidentiality and privilege with authority to waive same;
- ___ 18. Requesting authorization by the Court to perform additional duties necessary to carry out the function of the *Guardian ad litem*;
- ___ 19. Filing petitions, motions, responses or objections, including a request that an Attorney for the Minor Child(ren) be appointed;
- ___ 20. Calling witnesses;
- ___ 21. Examining witnesses;
- ___ 22. Entering exhibits;
- ___ 23. Filing Claims for Relief;
- ___ 24. Making oral and/or written argument to the Court.

___ **ALL OF THE ABOVE**

___ 25. Other:

II. PAYMENT OF RETAINER AND FEES. The *Guardian ad litem*'s retainer of \$ _____ shall be paid: ___ % by the Plaintiff and ___ % by the Defendant on or before _____. Fees which exceed the retainer shall be paid ___ upon receipt of bills; ___ upon motion and order.

III. DURATION OF APPOINTMENT. The *Guardian ad litem* shall remain engaged in the case until ___ discharged by the court, ___ entry of judgment, ___ 180 days after judgment, ___ one year after judgment.

IV. ___ Plaintiff ___ Defendant is to forward all pleadings and contact information to the *Guardian ad litem* within ___ days.

Dated at _____, Connecticut this ___ day of _____, 2004.

By the Court, (_____)

(_____, Judge/Asst. Clerk)