

GUARDIAN AD LITEM COMPLAINT FORM

BOARD OF OVERSEERS OF THE BAR

Established by the Maine Supreme Judicial Court

97 Winthrop Street • P O Box 527

Augusta, ME 04332-0527

Phone 207-623-1121 • Fax 207-623-4175

E-mail: centralintake@mebaroverseers.org • Web: www.mebaroverseers.org

Information and Instructions – Please Read Carefully

The Guardian ad Litem Review Board investigates allegations of ethical misconduct against guardians ad litem. If you believe that a guardian ad litem has violated the guardian ad litem rules of conduct or a court order related to the appointment, please fill out, as completely as possible, this form and return it to the Board's office. You should include a copy of the court's order appointing the guardian and any other court orders or documents relevant to your complaint. Your complaint will be reviewed in accordance with the Maine Rules for Guardians ad Litem adopted by the Maine Supreme Judicial Court effective September 1, 2015. Please be aware that a copy of this complaint, and any attachments, will be provided to the guardian ad litem against whom it is filed.

Although the Board does not provide paper copies of the Maine Rules for Guardians ad Litem, you may download those rules on the State of Maine's website at:

http://www.courts.maine.gov/rules_adminorders/rules/amendments/2015_mr_9_gal_2015-7-8.pdf

Information about you:

Your Name:	_____		
	<i>First</i>	<i>Middle Initial</i>	<i>Last</i>
Your Address:	_____		
	<i>Street</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Home	()
		<input type="checkbox"/> Work	()
	<i>Mailing Address</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Cell	()
	_____	_____	_____
	<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Zip</i>
	_____		_____
	<i>E-mail Address</i>		<i>Date of Birth</i>
	Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		

	<i>Last 4 Digits of SSN</i>		

May we communicate with you by email? Yes No

Guardian ad Litem Information:

Guardian Name:	_____		
	<i>First</i>	<i>Middle Initial</i>	<i>Last</i>
Guardian Address:	_____		
	<i>Street</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Home	()
		<input type="checkbox"/> Work	()
	<i>Mailing Address</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Cell	()
	_____	_____	_____
	<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Zip</i>

	<i>E-mail Address</i>		

A. The court case:

1. Name and location of the court: _____
2. Docket number: _____
3. Type of case: (e.g. child protection, parental rights and responsibilities/divorce./grandparent visitation rights, or probate guardianship, etc): _____
4. The name of your attorney, if you have one: _____
5. Names of the child(ren) the guardian ad litem was appointed to represent: _____

6. What (if any) is your relationship to the child(ren) the guardian ad litem was appointed to represent? _____
7. Does this complaint involve a dispute about the guardian ad litem's fees? Yes No

B. Your complaint against the guardian ad litem:

1. What is the nature of this complaint against the guardian ad litem? (Check more than one as appropriate)

___ Did not meet with child(ren) in a timely manner consistent with the appointment order

___ Did not meet with and observe child(ren)'s interaction with caregivers at home and/or placement, if ordered by the court

___ Did not appear at court proceedings as ordered by judge or magistrate

___ Failed to sufficiently protect child(ren) from testifying or make other arrangements to ensure the safety of child(ren)

___ Did not exercise independent representation on behalf of child(ren)

___ Did not file timely guardian ad litem reports as required by law or court order.

___ Disclosed confidential information

___ Showed bias or prejudice based upon race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status

___ Dispute regarding fees for services or billing practices

___ Other (please be as specific as possible)

2. Have you spoken to the guardian ad litem about your complaint? Yes No

2. Have you filed a complaint or action against this guardian ad litem elsewhere? Yes No
If so, explain where that complaint was filed, and the complaint's status:

Do you understand that the filing of this complaint constitutes your consent to the disclosure of the content of your complaint and relevant information to the named guardian ad litem; the Guardian ad Litem Review Board; Board Counsel; the Board of Overseers of the Bar; the Maine Judicial Branch including the court; any regulatory or administrative agency that has or could issue a license to the guardian ad litem you have named; and any of the employees, agents and attorneys for these entities and agencies? Yes No

Do you understand your complaint may become public? Yes No

Do you realize this complaint form may be declared a public record? Yes No

Date

(Signature)

Mail or email complaint form with attachments, to:

Board of Overseers of the Bar
P.O. Box 527
Augusta, ME 04332-0527

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