

GUARDIAN AD LITEM CERTIFICATION

Commonwealth of Virginia VA. CODE §§ 16.1-266.1, 16.1-274(d); Rule 8:6

Case No.

.....
DATE OF HEARING

..... [] Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court [] Circuit Court

In re:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have taken the following actions in performing the duties of the guardian *ad litem* for the child according to the *Standards to Govern the Performance of Guardians Ad Litem for Children* as indicated below. (Any information provided under each listed duty should not include any confidential information.)

1. I [] have [] have not met face-to-face with the child since the last court hearing in this matter. I met face-to-face with the child for a total of hours prior to today's hearing.

Comments:

.....

2. I [] have [] have not conducted an independent investigation of this matter in order to ascertain the facts of the case.

Comments:

.....

3. I [] have [] have not advised the child, in terms the child can understand, of the nature of the proceeding, the child's rights, my role and responsibilities as guardian *ad litem*, the court process, and the possible consequences of the legal action.

Comments:

.....

4. I [] have [] have not participated, as appropriate, in pre-trial conferences, mediation and negotiations.

Comments:

.....

5. I [] have [] have not ensured the child's attendance at all proceedings, where such attendance would be appropriate and/or mandated.

Comments:

.....

6. I [] have [] have not appeared in court on the dates and times scheduled for hearings prepared to fully and vigorously represent the child's interests.

Comments:

.....

7. I [] have [] have not prepared the child to testify, when necessary and appropriate, in accord with the child's interest and welfare.

Comments:

.....

8. I [] have [] have not provided [] will provide the court sufficient information including specific recommendations for court action based on the findings of the interviews and independent investigation.

Comments:

.....

9. I [] have [] have not communicated, coordinated and maintained a professional working relationship in so far as possible with all parties without sacrificing independence.

Comments:

.....

10. I [] have [] have not filed appropriate petitions, motions, pleadings, briefs, and appeals on behalf of the child and will ensure the child is represented by a GAL in any appeal involving the case.

Comments:

.....

11. I [] will [] will not advise the child, in terms the child can understand, of the court's decision and its consequences for the child and others in his or her life.

Comments:

.....

I have provided or will provide copies of this completed form to the court and to all counsel and parties proceeding pro se at the beginning of the hearing.

.....
NAME OF GUARDIAN AD LITEM

.....
DATE

.....
GUARDIAN AD LITEM

.....
VSB. NO.