Arranging Caregiving During Family Separations

ALLIANCE for CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Advisory Notice

This presentation is for informational purposes only and is intended for a California audience. It does not constitute legal advice and does not create an attorney-client relationship.

Agenda

Overview of court systems that affect the care and custody of children in California

Overview of available caregiving options

Q&A

Presenter

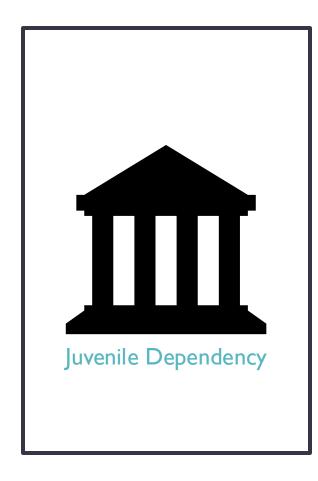
• Juan Guzman, Children's Court Advocacy Project Director, Alliance for Children's Rights



COURT SYSTEMS

Understanding the courts supporting children

CHILDREN'S COURTS







Juvenile Dependency Court:

 Juvenile Dependency Court is the branch of the Superior Court which hears cases involving neglected and/or abused children.

Probate Court:

• Probate Court establishes probate guardianships set up because a child is living with an adult who is not the child's parent, and the adult needs a court order to make decisions on behalf of the child. Generally, probate guardianships are for children under 18.

Family Court:

• Family Court assists families with the litigation of domestic disputes (including divorce and separation), including the health, safety, and welfare of children.



JUVENILE DEPENDENCY COURT

Children

- Focus on family reunification if possible, including visitation
- Appointed counsel
- Assigned caseworker

Parents

- Focus on family reunification if possible, including visitation
- Appointed counsel
- Assigned caseworker
- Services may be provided to help remedy the child safety issues that exist in the home
- May retain some decision-making rights subject to court order

Caregivers

- No appointed counsel
- Eligible to receive:
 - Emergency
 funding at time of
 placement, and
 foster care
 benefits once
 approved
 - Specialized care support if needed
 - Emergency Childcare Bridge
 - Training
 - Funding to transport child to their school



PROBATE COURT

Children

- No due process rights: children are usually not parties in probate cases
- No automatic right to an attorney
- No right to be heard by the court
- No right to reunification services

Parents

- Petition for
 Guardianship
 (parents must be told that someone is attempting to get guardianship)
- Right to be represented by an attorney but not automatically appointed

Caregivers

- Generally the petitioner in a probate case
- Relative caregivers can receive CalWORKs
- Non-relative caregivers granted guardianship can receive AFDC-FC benefits
- Kinship navigation services may be available depending on county



Children

- No due process rights: children are not parties in family court matters
- No automatic right to an attorney
- No right to be heard by the court
- No right to reunification services

Parents

- Judicial review and orders on their domestic disputes, including child custody orders
- Opportunity to be represented by an attorney, but one is not automatically appointed
- Court mandated family counseling
- Opportunity to advocate for their child's best interests

Caregivers

- Non-parent and relative caregivers may be granted custodial rights (physical custody)
- Services and financial assistance are limited, but can petition for child support or qualify for CalWORKs

CAREGIVER'S
 AUTHORIZATION
 AFFIDAVIT

POWER OF ATTORNEY

PROBATE GUARDIANSHIP

CAREGIVING OPTIONS

Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit

- Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit: Authority to enroll the child in school and get schoolrelated medical care
- If the child lives with you in California, you can sign a <u>Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit</u>. This form lets you enroll the child in school and consent to medical care related to school.
 - For example, you can consent to vaccinations or physical exams.
- If you're the child's relative, you can also make medical care decisions outside of the school context. But someone not related to the child can only consent to medical care related to school. (The Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit form lists who qualifies as a child's relative.)
- You must sign a new Caregiver's Affidavit each year. And it's not valid if the child no longer lives with you. You must let the school and health care provider know if the child moves out of your home.
- Parents do not need to sign the form, but they can cancel it at any time.

CAREGIVER'S AUTHORIZATION AFFIDAVIT FAMILY CODE SECTION 6550

What can a Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit be used for?

- **School enrollment**: A caregiver can enroll a child in school, regardless of whether they are related to the child.
- **Medical care**: A caregiver can consent to medical care for the child, including vaccinations and physical exams.
- Welfare benefits: A relative caregiver can receive welfare benefits for the child.

What does the form need to include?

- Caregiver's name, age, and relationship to the child
- Child's name and information that identifies them
- Statement that the caregiver is authorized to make decisions for the child
- Statement that the caregiver is not making decisions that conflict with the child's parent
- Signature and date from the caregiver

Notes for Caregivers

TO CAREGIVERS:

- "Qualified relative", means a spouse, parent, stepparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, half-brother, half-sister, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, first cousin, or any person denoted by the prefix "grand" or "great" or the spouse of any of the persons specified in this definition, even after the marriage has been terminated by death or dissolution.
- The law may require you, if you are not a relative or a currently licensed foster parent, to obtain a foster home license in order to care for a minor. If you have any questions, please contact your local department of social services.
- If the minor stops living with you, your are required to notify any school, health care provider, or health care service plan to which you have given this affidavit.
- If you do not have the information requested (California driver's license or I.D.), provide another form of identification such as your Social Security number or Medi-Cal number.

Notes for School Officials

TO SCHOOL OFFICIALS:

- Section 48204 of the Education Code provides that this affidavit constitutes a sufficient basis for a determination of residency of the minor, without the requirement of a guardianship or other custody order, unless the school district determines from actual facts that the minor is not living with the caregiver.
- The school district may require additional reasonable evidence that the caregiver lives at the address provided.

Notes for Health Care Providers

TO HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND HEALTH CARE SERVICE PLANS:

- No person who acts in good faith reliance upon a caregiver's
 authorization affidavit to provide medical or dental care, without
 actual knowledge of facts contrary to those stated on the affidavit, is
 subject to criminal liability or to civil liability to any person, or is
 subject to professional disciplinary action, for such reliance if the
 applicable portions of the form are completed.
- This affidavit does not confer dependency for health care coverage purposes.

To keep other people from seeing what you entered on your form, please press the Clear This Form button at the end of the form when finished.

Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit

Use of this affidavit is authorized by Part 1.5 (commencing with Section 6550) of Division 11 of the California Family Code.

Instructions: Completion of items 1 - 4 and the signing of the affidavit is sufficient to authorize enrollment of a minor in school and authorize schoolrelated medical care. Completion of items 5-8 is additionally required to authorize any other medical care. Print clearly.

The minor named below lives in my home and I am 18 years of age or older. 1. Name of minor:					
2. Minor's birth date:					
My name (adult giving authorization):					
4. My home address (street, apartment number, city, state, zip code):					
 I am a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or other qualified relative of the minor (see page 2 of this form for a definition of "qualified relative"). 					
Check one or both (for example, if one parent was advised and the other cannot be located): I have advised the parent(s) or other person(s) having legal custody of the minor of my intent to authorize medical care, and have received no objection.					
I am unable to contact the parent(s) or other person(s) having legal custody of the minor at this time, to notify them of my intended authorization.					
7. My date of birth:					
My California's driver's license or identification card number:					
Warning: Do not sign this form if any of the statements above are incorrect, or you will be committing a crime punishable by a fine, imprisonment, or both.					
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.					
Dated: Signed:					
California Courts Self-Help Center www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/ For your protection and privacy, please press the Clear This Form www.ISCamfornis.com					

utton after you have printed the form

Print This Form

Clear This Form

Completing the Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit

- I. Name of the minor you're completing for form for.
- Date of birth of minor.
- 3. Name of the adult giving authorization. (See #5 below).
- 4. Home address of the adult completing the form giving authorization.
- 5. Check if you are the spouse, parent, stepparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, half-brother, half-sister, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, first cousin, or any person denoted by the prefix "grand" or "great" or the spouse of any of the persons specified in this definition, even after the marriage has been terminated by death or dissolution.
- 6. Check if you have advised one or both parents of your intent to authorize medical care and have received no objection.
- 7. Your date of birth.
- Your California driver's license or identification card number.

Date and sign the form.

NO COURT & MAKE COPIES

The Caregiver's
Authorization Affidavit
DOES NOT get filed with
the court. And, it DOES
NOT have to be notarized.

Make multiple copies so you can give one to the child's school and the different medical providers.



Power of Attorney

POWER OF ATTORNEY PROBATE CODE SECTION 4000 ET SEQ.

- If you're concerned that a service provider won't accept a Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit because it's not signed by the child's parent, there's another option. Parents can sign a written agreement (technically called a "power of attorney") giving you the authority to care for their child if they know they will not be able to take care of the child temporarily. For example, if the parents will be away for work, in jail, or getting medical treatment. The parents may want you to sign the form, too, to make sure you accept the duty to care for their children.
- In this agreement, a parent can give you the right to make any decision for the child that a guardian would be able to make under the law. The agreement must list each decision you are authorized to make in writing. You will not have the right to make any decision that is not listed. For example, the parent might want to give you the right to make decisions about the child's medical care, and education, but not the right to change the child's residence or consent to the child's marriage.
- This agreement can give you rights to care for the child, but it will not give you legal custody over the child. The parents will keep legal custody and all their rights to make decisions about the child's life, too. Only a court order, like a guardianship, can take legal custody from a parent and give it to another person. In addition, a parent can cancel this agreement or power of attorney at any time.
- This agreement or power of attorney is not a court form, but you may be able to find a form online. Even though it might look simple, there are quite a few technical requirements for completing a valid power of attorney. It's a good idea for you and the parents to consult a lawyer. And even if you do everything right, it's possible that a service provider will refuse to recognize your authority. A power of attorney for child care is unusual, and providers may not be familiar with it.

AUTHORIZATION FOR THIRD PARTY TO CONSENT TO MEDICAL CARE AND HAVE EDUCATIONAL DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY

- A Third-Party Consent form allows a parent or guardian to give any adult written authority to consent to a child's medical care. Family Code Section 6910.
- Authority for medical care is limited to treatment that parent or guardian authorizes in writing.
- Allows non-related caregivers to consent to medical care for children without obtaining legal guardianship
- A parent or guardian can assign educational decision-making authority of a minor with special needs to another adult. Government Code Section 7579.5(n)
- Allows caregiver to request assessments and participate in meetings (e.g. Individualized Education Plan) without obtaining legal guardianship

WHEN THESE OPTIONS MIGHT NOT BE RIGHT

- You're worried about the child's safety if the parent cancels your rights.
- Parents can cancel these authorizations at any time, and you will no longer have any rights. In a guardianship, parents must ask a judge to end a guardianship.
- You want to add the child to your health insurance.
- Most insurance companies will not add someone else's child to your insurance policy unless there's a court order (like a guardianship). Make sure you have the child's health insurance information.
- You need to request the child's vital records.
- You decide it's easier to have a court order that others have to follow.
- Schools and medical facilities are required by law to accept the Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit. But sometimes staff aren't familiar with them and may be hesitant to accept them. You may need to educate staff about them. Some people find it easier to have a legal guardianship since it is an official court order.

Probate Guardianship

PROBATE GUARDIANSHIP

- A guardian of the person must act in the child's best interest after deciding as a reasonable and prudent parent would what that interest is.
- You will be legally responsible for the child
 - This means you can be liable for any harm the child causes or for not supervising the child. For example, if the child causes harm -- like graffiti or a car accident -- you will be responsible for the damages. If you let the child drive without a license, you will be legally responsible.
- You may have to spend your own money to raise the child
 - The child may get income from the Social Security Adminstration, public assistance, child support from the parents, or an inheritance from a deceased parent. Any money you get for the child must be used for the child's benefit. The judge may order you to file reports on how you spend the money if they have any questions.
- The money you get may not be enough to meet the child's needs. Child support does not always arrive, even if it is ordered by the court. Contact your <u>local child support agency</u> or <u>county social services</u> <u>office</u> to find out more about child support or government assistance.

ROLE & RIGHTS OF PROBATE GUARDIAN: LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

- You can let the child visit with family and friends, but they must primarily live with you. If you move, you must let the court, the child's parents, and anyone who was nominated to be the child's guardian know in writing. If you want to move out of California with the child, you have to get the court's permission before you move.
- The child cannot live with their parents. They may be able to visit their parents, but you would decide when and how often.
 - If you and the parents can't agree about visits, the parents can ask a judge to order visitation. You would need to do what the judge orders. If the parents want custody back, they can file papers in court asking to end the guardianship.

ROLE & RIGHTS OF PROBATE GUARDIAN: EDUCATION

Deciding where the child goes to school and staying involved in their education.

You will have the right and the responsibility to make decisions about the child's education. You must stay involved in the child's education, and make sure their school gives them any help they need with school, like tutoring or special education services and support.



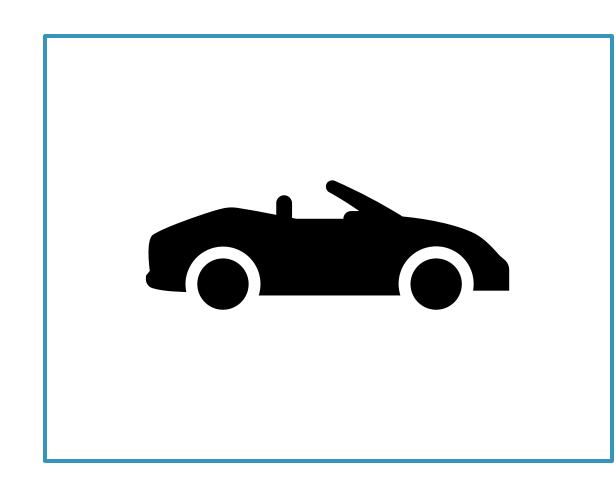


ROLE & RIGHTS OF PROBATE GUARDIAN: MEDICAL CARE

Taking care of the child's medical and mental health needs.

You must make sure the child gets proper care, including medical, dental, and mental health care. Generally, you can make decisions about any medical treatment the child needs, but you may not place them in a mental health treatment facility against their will.

ROLE & RIGHTS OF PROBATE GUARDIAN: PERMISSIONS



Giving permission (or not) for the child to drive, enlist in the military, or get married.

If they drive, you must get the child (teen) car insurance. You may be responsible for any accidents. The guardianship will end if they enlist in the military or get married.

ROLE & RIGHTS OF PROBATE GUARDIAN: COURT UPDATE



Keeping the court up to date and follow any orders.

■ Each year, you will need to update the court in writing using Form GC-251 about what's going on with the child. You must also meet with any court investigators or social workers sent by the court, come to court when the court tells you, and follow all other orders.

GUARDIANSHIP NOMINATION FORM PROBATE CODE SECTION 1502(B)

- If the parent is not ready to have someone else serve as the guardian of their child, they can nominate a person to be appointed as a guardian, conditioned on the occurrence of a specific event.
- Parent complete nomination on form GC-211 and attaches MC-025 detailing the condition under which the nomination would become effective.
 - Ex: the nomination contained in the GC-211 to which this document is attached shall only become effective upon my
 detention or removal from the U.S.
 - Ex: the nomination contained in the GC-211 to which this document is attached shall only become effective upon my death.

For Educational Purposes Only

			GC-211	
	R PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State	Bar number, and address):	FOR COURT USE ONLY	
Carla Care 1234 Stree	egiver et Ave. Los Angeles, CA 00000			
1207 3000	2.7.1.5. 200 Angolos, OA 00000			
1	LEPHONE NO.: (123) 456-7891	FAX NO. (Optional):		
	RESS (Optional):			
	EY FOR (Name): In Pro Per			
	R COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUR	NTY OF LOS ANGELES		
STREET ADD	DRESS: 111 N. Hill St.			
	code: Los Angeles, 90012			
1	NAME: Stanley Mosk Courthous			
	Claricy Mook Courting			
GUARDIA	NSHIP OF THE X PER	SON ESTATE OF (Name):		
Mickey Mi	nor			
	NSENT OF PROPOSED GUA	DDIAN	CASE NUMBER:	
	INSENT OF PROPOSED GUA IMINATION OF GUARDIAN	RDIAN	CASE NUMBER.	
		F GUARDIAN AND WAIVER OF NOTICE		
		CONSENT OF PROPOSED GUARDIAN		
1 Lonse	ent to serve as guardian of the		minor.	
Date:	to doi to do guardian of the	person estate of the	miliot.	
Date.		K.		
	(TYPE OR PRINT)		(SIGNATURE OF PROPOSED GUARDIAN)	
		NOMINATION OF GUARDIAN		
2. I am	x a parent of the minor	a donor of a gift to the minor. I nominate	e (name and address):	
		Carla Caregiver, 1234 Street Ave., Los		
as qua	rdian of the x person	estate of the minor.	ed in Attachment 2	
3. Iam	x a parent of the minor	a donor of a gift to the minor. I nominate	e (name and address):	
		Carla Caregiver, 1234 Street Ave., Los	Angeles, CA 00000	
as qua	rdian of the x person	estate of the minor. Continue	ed in Attachment 3	
Date:		continue	a III / ttacillicit 5	
Date.		N IENI	TED DADENT/O) OLONATUDES	
Marisol I		ici -	TER PARENT(S) SIGNATURE]	
	(TYPE OR PRINT	NAME)	(SIGNATURE)	
NOTICE	The guardian of the pers	on of a minor child has full legal and phy	sical custody until the child becomes	
an adult or is adopted, the court changes guardians, or the court terminates the guardianship.				
		ed persons must petition the court to ter		
	will not do so unless the	judge decides that termination would be	in the child's best interest.	
	CONSENT TO	APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN AND WA	IVED OF NOTICE	
		an as requested in the Petition for Appointment	•	
(date):	.18	am entitled to notice in this proceeding, but I wai	ve notice of hearing of the petition, including	
notice of any request for independent powers contained in it. I waive timely receipt of a copy of the petition.				
		K.		
DATE	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME			
DATE	(TIPE OR PRINT NAME	(SIGNATURE)	RELATIONSHIP TO MINOR	
DATE	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	<u>P</u>		
DATE	(TTPE OR PRINT NAME)	(SIGNATURE)	RELATIONSHIP TO MINOR	
		P		
DATE	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	(SIGNATURE)	RELATIONSHIP TO MINOR	
C	ontinued on Attachment 4.		Page 1 of 1	

For Educational Purposes Only

	MC-025
SHORT TITLE:	CASE NUMBER:
Legal Guardianship of Mickey Minor	

ATTACHMENT (Number): 2-3

(This Attachment may be used with any Judicial Council form.)

NOMINATION OF GUARDIAN FORM GC-211

Pursuant to Probate Code 1502(b), the nomination of guardian included on form GC-211, attached to this document, shall only take effect upon my detention or removal from the U.S.

(If the item that this Attachment concerns is made under penalty of perjury, all statements in this Attachment are made under penalty of perjury.)

Page _1___ of _1__ (Add pages as required)

Navigating the Court: Caregiver and Parent Roles and Responsibilities



INITIATING THE FORMAL COURT PROCESS: DECISION & FORMS

Decide
Guardianship is
the best option
for the family

Get the address of the court where you will file the case

Fill out forms

Plan for length of court process

Find out about any local forms

Make multiple copies (at least 3)

INITIATING THE FORMAL COURT PROCESS: FORMS

Petition for Appointment of Guardian of the Person (form GC-210(P))

- Fill out a Petition. If there's more than one petitioner, each one must sign. If the child is 12 or older, they can sign too, or file the Petition by themselves
- Fill out one attachment for each child. Attach it to the Petition.

Indian Child Inquiry Attachment (form ICWA-010a)

Fill out one attachment for each child. Attach it to the Petition.

Declaration Under Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) (form FL-105/GC-120)

• If there is more than one child, you can include them on the same form. If there are more than two children, you can use attachment form FL-105(A)/GC-120(A).

Confidential Guardian Screening Form (form GC-212)

• Fill out a screening form. The information on this form will be confidential. Everyone asking to be appointed guardian must fill out a separate form.

If required by your court, Consent of Proposed Guardian (form GC-211)

• Fill out and sign item 1. Many courts do not require this form if you are asking the court to appoint yourself as the guardian.

Notice of Hearing--Guardianship or Conservatorship (form GC-020)

• Fill out the caption and #I of the Notice. Also, fill out the names and addresses of the relatives who can be served by mail on page two. Attach Proof of Personal Service (form GC-020(P)) with the information of the relatives, like the parents, who must be served in person. When you file the form, the clerk will write in the hearing date on the front.

Duties of Guardian (form GC-248)

Read carefully, date, and sign. All proposed guardians must sign.

Letters of Guardianship (form GC-250)

• Only fill out the caption. The court will keep this form or will return it to you to hold on to until the court date. The court clerk will fill it out based on what the judge orders.

Order Appointing Guardian or Extending Guardianship of the Person (form GC-240)

• Only fill out the caption. The court will keep this form or will return it to you to hold on to until the court date. Then, the judge will fill it out and sign it if they appoint a guardian.

INITIATING THE FORMAL COURT PROCESS: FILE WITH THE COURT

Take your forms to the court clerk



Pay a filing fee or request fee waiver



Figure out who you have to notify and how

INITIATING THE FORMAL COURT PROCESS: HEARING

What Happens After I File for Guardianship?

- Once the Petition for Appointment of Guardian has been filed, the clerk will set the matter for hearing.
- The hearing will generally be set 45 days from the date of filing.
- Once you have been given a hearing date, it is your responsibility to serve the Notice of Hearing on all first and second degree relatives.
 - Some relatives can be served by first class mail, but others, such as parents, must be personally served.
- If any relatives disagree with the proposed guardianship, they may file a written objection and express their objections at the hearing.

INITIATING THE FORMAL COURT PROCESS: NOTIFICATION

When you ask to be appointed guardian, you must notify:

- I. The child, if 12 or older
- 2. The child's parents
- 3. Anyone who has legal custody of the child
- 4. Any guardian of the child's estate (if there is one)
- 5. Anyone nominated to be the child's guardian
- 6. The child's grandparents on both sides
- 7. The child's siblings, including half-siblings
- 8. Anyone who has the child in their care (if different than the person who has legal custody)

You may also have to notify your county's human services or social services department. And, if you're not related to the child, you'll have to notify the <u>California Department of Social Services</u>.

INITIATING THE FORMAL COURT PROCESS: NOTIFICATION

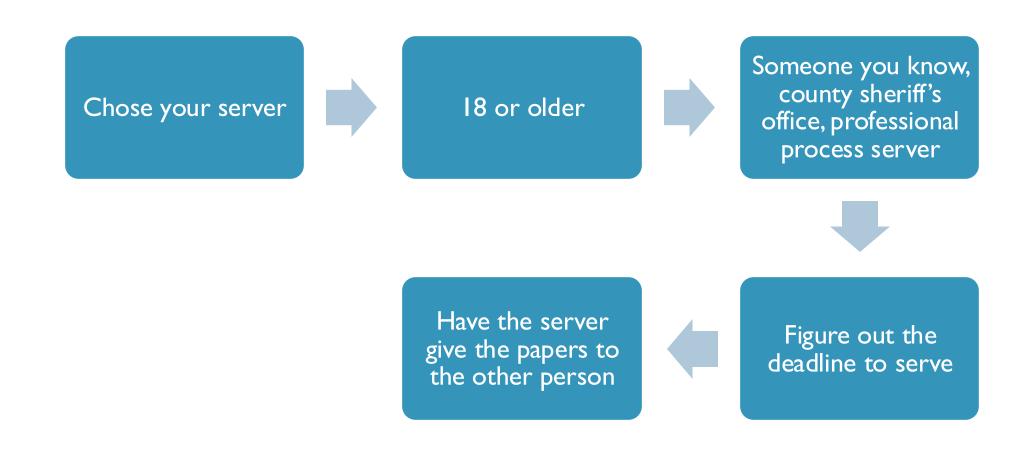
WHO MUST BE SERVED IN PERSON

- The child, if they are 12 years old or older
- The child's parents
- Anyone who has legal custody of the child
- Any court-appointed guardian of the child's estate
- Any person nominated as guardian for the child
- If you filed for someone else to be appointed guardian (not you), then your server must also hand the papers in person too.

WHO CAN BE SERVED BY MAIL

- All of the child's grandparents
- The child's siblings who are at least 12 years old (including half-siblings)
- The parents, guardians, or person who has custody of any sibling under 12 years old
- Anyone taking care of the child (if this person does not have legal custody of the child)
- If you're not related to the child, your server will also have to mail the papers to the California Department of Social Services, Director of Social Services at 744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

INITIATING THE FORMAL COURT PROCESS: NOTIFICATION



INITIATING THE FORMAL COURT PROCESS: INVESTIGATION

- Before the judge makes a decision, the court will appoint someone to investigate why the guardianship is necessary or convenient and write a report for the judge. Then, you'll have a court date.
- During the period of time from the filing to the hearing, a Court Investigator will complete a background investigation for each proposed guardian, for any adult living in the home where the minor will reside and for any person listed as a potential caregiver for the child.
 - There is a fee for the investigation, which is not covered by the filing fee.
- Once the investigation is complete, the Probate Court Investigator will prepare a report for the judge.
- Copies of the report will also be provided to the proposed guardian and any others as prescribed by law.

INITIATING THE FORMAL PROCESS: HEARING

At court, you, the child's parents, and the child's other family members will have the chance to speak to the judge. Then, the judge will decide whether to make you guardian for the child.

TERMINATING THE GUARDIANSHIP

How does a guardianship end or get terminated?

- A guardianship ends automatically when a child turns 18. It will also end if the child is adopted, marries, enters the military, or is declared an adult (emancipated) by court order. It will also end if the child dies.
- A guardianship can also end when the guardian, the parents, or the child (if 12 or older) asks the judge to end the guardianship and the judge agrees. The judge considers:
 - If ending the guardianship is in the child's best interest
 - What the child wants (if they're 12 or older)
- If a parent asks that the child live with them again, the judge will need proof that the parent has a stable place to live, has a source of income, and can provide a good home for the child. They'll also want proof the parent is "fit" or has been rehabilitated. This means that whatever situation the parent was in that made the guardianship necessary is no longer the case, and the parent is fit to take care of their child.

Form GC-207-INFO/ JV-352-INFO

- Compares different voluntary and court-ordered caregiving arrangements across various topics: rights and duties, available financial supports and services, and appointment/approval processes.
- Designed to inform both prospective guardians and parents and must be included in the notice given pursuant to Probate Code ISII(a).
- Cross-references three additional forms: GC-205-INFO, GC 206-INFO, and JV-350-INFO
- GC-208-INFO: https://selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/jcc-form/GC-207-INFO

signature



+

Available Benefits

- CalWorks
- Medi-Cal
- CalFresh

Parent Questions

- What happens if I give someone temporary guardianship and then move back?
- Can I get my children back right away?
- What happens if I don't appoint anyone as guardian?
- Where would my children go?
- What are the legal steps to appoint a guardian?
- Is a lawyer necessary for this process?
- What rights would the guardian have over my children?
- How can I make sure my children stay together if I have more than one?

Resources

- Guardianships in California | California Courts | Self Help Guide
- California Caregiver Affidavit Authorization: caregiver.pdf (SECURED)
- Options other than a guardianship | California Courts | Self Help Guide
- Find a Court: Find my court | Judicial Branch of California
- Judicial Council GC-207-INFO/JV-352-INFO: gc207info.pdf (SECURED) (ca.gov)

ALLIANCE for CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

STAY CONNECTED

allianceforchildrensrights.org

