

March 11, 2023

## SO YOU WANT TO BE A CURATORÖ.

**Presenter: Greg MULLowney, Master National Guardian**

1. The court will determine if you are going to be:
  - the guardian of the person (to make residential and medical treatment decisions)
  - and/or**
  - the guardian of the person's financial matters.
2. The court will issue a **Judgment** appointing you as guardian, and outlining what your duties will be. You have **ONLY** the powers that the court grants you. Your authority to act does not begin until the Clerk of Court has issued you **Letters of Curatorship**.
3. You will need to file an **Oath** with the Clerk of Court, and post Bond, if the court determines it necessary, depending on the size of the person's estate.
4. Once the Oath and Bond are accepted, you will receive written Letters of Curatorship.

When you go to a bank, Social Security Office, or the doctor's office or a hospital, take the certified copies of the Judgment **AND** the Letters of Curatorship with you, as they will need to be read together in order for those entities to know *exactly* what authority you have been given by the court.

**YOUR RESPONSIBILITY:** is to make decisions that are in the best interests of the interdict. If the interdict can understand and communicate with you, try to involve the interdict in the decisions you make.

**Make medical appointments for the interdict and get the results and follow through with recommendations. See that the interdict gets any medications refilled.**

5. After a year, or at any time the court orders it, you must file a report to the court explaining what has occurred with the interdict for the past year.

**RECORD KEEPING** will make this easier.

**MEDICAL:** Keep a notebook of significant things that have happened - like medical appointments, hospitalizations, medication changes, etc.

**FINANCES:** You might want to open a separate checking account for the interdict to better keep track of the interdict's income and expenses, and to make reporting to the court easier. Take the Judgment and Letters to the bank to open an interdiction checking account.

**The biggest problem for curators is not being to able to prove they are spending the interdict's funds on the interdict. So**

- keep receipts for all expenditures made with the interdict's funds.
  - keep the receipts with the interdict's monthly bank statements so that you can show the court, if asked to prove some expenses.
6. File an Annual Report with the Court at the Clerk of Court's office every year.