



MINNESOTA

Board Members

Crysta Parkin, Chair
Ann Ahlstrom
Timothy Zuel
Rudy Tolbert
Emelie Rivera
Stephanie Bumgardner

STATE GUARDIAN AD LITEM BOARD COMPLAINT FORM

Program Administrator

Tami Baker Olson
25 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Blvd, G-27
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155
(651)215-9467
Tami.bakerolson@courts.state.mn.us

Complainant Name, Address and Phone Number/s

First	Middle I.	Last

Address 1

--

Address 2

--

City	State	Zip Code

Phone Numbers:

Home:	Work:	Cell:
-------	-------	-------

Case Name and File Number

Case Name:	File Number:
------------	--------------

Guardian ad Litem's Name, District/County and Phone number/s

First	Middle I.	Last

District

--

County

--

Phone Numbers:

Work:	Cell:
-------	-------

Note in the appropriate box/es below the statutory responsibility or responsibilities the guardian ad litem either failed to perform or performed improperly or the improper performance or conduct of the guardian ad litem.

Minnesota Statutes 260C.163 and 518.165 and MN Rule 904 state the following statutory responsibilities of a guardian ad litem:

Conduct an independent investigation to determine the facts relevant to the situation of the child and the family. Please indicate what specific actions were not a part of the GAL investigation.

1. Did the GAL review relevant documents?
2. Did the GAL meet with and/or observe the child in the home settings (if appropriate) and/or foster care?
3. Did the GAL consider the child's wishes (as appropriate)?
4. Did the GAL interview parents/parties if available?
5. JUVENILE CASES ONLY: Did the GAL speak with caregivers and professionals with knowledge relevant to the case?
6. FAMILY COURT ONLY: Did the GAL speak with references provided and professionals with knowledge of the case?

Advocate for the child's best interests.

1. Did the GAL participate in the appropriate aspects of the case?
2. Did the GAL advocate for and/or recommend appropriate services for the parties and/or child if necessary?
3. FOR ICWA ONLY: Did the GAL notify the appropriate tribe of the court proceeding?

Maintain the confidentiality of information related to a case, with the exception of sharing information as permitted by law to promote cooperative solutions that are in the best interests of the child.

1. Did the GAL share information about the case that should not have been shared?

Monitor the child's best interests throughout the judicial proceeding.

1. JUVENILE ONLY: Did the GAL see the child monthly?
2. FAMILY ONLY: Did the GAL observe the child with all parties (non OFP cases)?
3. Did the GAL submit reports as required?
4. Did the GAL participate in hearings as required?

Present written reports on the child's best interests that include conclusions and recommendations and the facts upon which they are based.

1. Did the GAL submit reports in a timely manner as required?
 - a. Juvenile cases 5 days prior to Review Hearings and Trials.
 - b. Family cases 10 days prior to Review Hearings, Evidentiary Hearings, and Trial.
 - c. OFP cases 1 day prior to Hearing.
2. Did the GAL report include recommendations and the facts upon which they are based?

Improper performance or conduct.

1. Did the GAL maintain appropriate boundaries (including but not limited to: gifts, transportation, inappropriate relationship with child/party/participant)?
2. Did the GAL provide legal advice or direct services to the the family?
3. Did the GAL diagnose or attempt to treat anyone involved in the case?
4. Did the GAL disclose any conflict of interest with anyone on the case?
5. Did the GAL discriminate or act in a bias manner based on race, color, ethnicity, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, age or other groups protected by law?

(If necessary, please attach additional pages)

When completing the form please provide as much information about what happened as possible.

- Provide complete details about what happened – who did what, where, when, and why, as appropriate.
- If there is more than one GAL involved, or if there are witnesses, describe what each person's involvement or role was – who did or knew what and when.
- Identify all people by complete names, providing as much contact information as possible.
- Arrange information in chronological order or some other logical way.
- Provide copies of any documents that you have that you think explain your complaint or substantiate your complaint. (do not provide original documents)

Are you submitting documents with this complaint? (Please, do not submit original documents)

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
-----	--------------------------	----	--------------------------

Dated: _____

Complainant's Signature: _____

Mail completed form and any additional documents to the GAL Manager of the district of the GAL you are making the complaint against. Please see [GAL Website](#) for names and addresses.

The complaint or determination is not admissible in court, absent a court order, pursuant to Rule 904 of the Minnesota Rules of Guardian ad Litem Procedure.

Any disciplinary action taken, or lack of, is not available to the complainant pursuant to Minnesota Rules of Public Access, Rule 5; applicable labor agreement, State Rules and State Law.