



Washington's Guardianship Laws Have Changed!!

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Expiring Letters of Guardianship</u></p> <p>Clerks must issue expiring Letters of Guardianship. Letter may be valid for up to five (5) years. Guardians may not act without valid Letters of Guardianship.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>New Hearing</u></p> <p>The court is authorized to set a hearing within 90 days of a guardian's appointment to review the incapacitated person's initial care plan.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Guardians Can Be Sanctioned</u></p> <p>If a guardian fails to file the intermediate report or account, or fails to appear at a review hearing, the court has the authority to schedule a contempt hearing; appoint a guardian ad litem; require the guardian to attend training; remove the guardian; appoint a successor guardian; or take other action as the court deems just and equitable.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>New Forms</u></p> <p>All Orders Appointing a Guardian and orders Approving Accounts and Reports must display a guardianship summary containing: date guardian appointed; due date for report and accounting; date of next review; expiring date of letters; bond amount; restricted agreements required; due date for inventory; due date for care plan; and name and contact information for the incapacitated person, the guardian and all interested parties.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>New Deadlines</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Mandatory training must be completed within 90 days of appointment.➤ Within 90 days of appointment, the guardian of the person and/or estate must notify all individuals identified by the court of their right to request special notice.➤ Guardian of the person and/or estate must file a notice naming a standby guardian within 90 days of appointment.➤ Guardian of the estate must file a final report within 90 days of the termination of guardianship or termination of appointment.➤ The court shall review intermediate accounts or reports within 120 days of the anniversary date of appointment.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mandatory Training</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Current guardians must complete mandatory, free training prior to filling intermediate account or reports.➤ Potential guardians must complete mandatory, free training prior to appointment or under certain circumstances within 90 days of appointment.➤ Mandatory training begins July 22, 2011➤ Mandatory training can be found online at www.courts.wa.gov/layguardiantraining.➤ For specific information about Mandatory Training, call 360.704.4081 or email layguardiantraining@courts.wa.gov	

If you have questions or concerns regarding the online Lay Guardian Training in Snohomish County, please contact:

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