

**APPLICATION FOR PIERCE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
TITLE 11 GUARDIAN AD LITEM REGISTRY TITLE**

This application is for Guardians ad Litem who are not currently serving on the Pierce County Superior Court Title 11 Guardian ad Litem Registry.

THIS IS PUBLIC INFORMATION

This is my application to serve as a Guardian ad Litem in Pierce County, State of Washington as required under RCW Title 11. I hereby certify under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that my application is true and correct.

Signed in: Tacoma (City), Washington on 03/23/2018 (Date)

Signature: _____

WSBA # and Year Admitted to Practice in the State of Washington: 1998, 27973

If a current or inactive member of another state's bar association, please indicate bar association number and year admitted to practice, and if applicable, year you became inactive: _____

Printed Name: Laurie Gibbens

Business Address: 2661 N. Pearl St. #251

City: Tacoma State: WA Zip Code: 98407

Business Telephone Number: (253) 441-5425 FAX: _____

E-Mail Address: lauriegibbens@outlook.com

Bilingual: Yes No If so, in what language(s): _____

Please indicate the county, date and location where you are enrolled for the two day mandatory training (only approved training qualifies) if not completed by the application closing date, **March 16, 2018**.
Date: _____ County/Sponsor: Spokane County Bar Association

NOTE: If you are not currently serving on any other county's RCW 11.88 certified GAL Registry, you are required to attend both days of the mandatory training held in the same year in which you apply. (Apply in January 2018, attend 2 day training in May 2018, not May 2017.)

Training Sponsored by: (Name) Spokane County Bar Association
(Address) 1116 West Broadway Ave., Spokane, WA
(County) Spokane (Dates) Fall 2018
(Phone) (509) 477-6032

NOTE: Only this application may be utilized. A checklist is included since late and incomplete applications shall not be accepted for any reason. All questions must be answered in the order in which they are given. Answers that only refer to a resume or vitae are not acceptable although a resume is required and you may attach supporting materials. Please return completed application, resume and any materials by **March 16, 2018 4:30 PM to:**

Pierce County Superior Court Administrator
Room 334, County City Building
930 Tacoma Ave South
Tacoma, WA 98402-2108

THIS PART OF THE APPLICATION IS PUBLIC INFORMATION

A. Level of formal education, indicating university issuing the degrees and years obtained:

1994 - J.D. Duquesne University School of Law, Pittsburgh, PA
1986 - B. A., Journalism University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND

B. Please list all trainings you have attended, the sponsor, month/year attended and the materials covered in each training that relate to Title 11 Guardian ad Litem statutory duties.

Attach all Certificates of Attendance/Completion. (You may attach separate pages for this question.)

I had planned to attend the initial 2-day certification training offered by the King County Bar Association offered April 26-27, 2018 but I have received orders for Navy reserve duty that same week out of state and will not be able to attend. As a result, I will register for the 2-day certification training offered by the Spokane County Bar Association in Fall 2018 unless I can find an earlier, closer class. The Spokane County Bar Association training was offered in Oct 2017 but the 2018 dates have not been posted yet.

C. Number of years' experience as a Guardian ad Litem under RCW 11.88.090:

1) List year and all counties where you first served on any certified RCW 11.88.090 Guardian ad Litem Registry.

This is my first application to serve as a GAL under RCW 11.88.

2) List each year and all counties where you have been appointed to serve on a RCW 11.88.090 Guardian ad Litem Registry.

None - this is my first application in any location.

D. Number of appointments you have received as an 11.88.090 Guardian ad Litem and all counties of appointment during the last Registry year, March 17, 2017 to present, if served on any other county Guardian ad Litem Registry:

Appointments in Pierce County:

Appointments in N/A County:

Appointments in N/A County:

E. Percentage of your total case load that RCW Title 11 Guardian ad Litem work represents overall:

F. Criminal history, as defined in RCW 9.94A.030: A current (dated on or after January 1, 2018) and completed Washington State Patrol Conviction Criminal History Record must be received by the Court. If not attached, the expected date the Court will have the record: _____

G. Have you been named as a defendant or respondent in any case involving allegations of domestic violence or anti-harassment? Yes No .

If yes, state the date, name of the court, court cause number, summary of the allegations, and the disposition of the case.

H. Have you been named as a petitioner or witness in any civil or criminal proceedings involving domestic violence or anti-harassment?

Yes No .

If yes, state the date, name of the court, court cause number, summary of the allegations, and the disposition of the case.

I. Evidence of your knowledge, training, and experience, in the following areas, pursuant to RCW 11.88.090 (3) (b) (I). You must complete **in full** the information requested below, in the space provided, in addition to attaching the required resume or vitae. However, answers that only refer to a resume or vitae are **not** acceptable.

1) The needs of impaired elderly:

Please see attached.

2) Understanding of issues surrounding abuse and neglect of the elderly:

Please see attached.

3) The needs of persons with physical disabilities:

Please see attached.

4) The needs of persons with mental illness:

Please see attached.

5) The needs of persons with developmental disabilities:

Please see attached.

6) Other areas relevant to the needs of incapacitated persons:

Please see attached.

7) Legal procedures and Guardian ad Litem requirements of RCW 11.88:

I am familiar with the requirements in RCW 11.88. I understand that a GAL must remain current on applicable status, case law and best practices to protect the interests of the alleged incapacitated person.

8) The number of times you have been removed for failure to adequately perform your duties as Guardian ad Litem or for other cause. For each removal, give a brief explanation with the county, case name and cause number, and attach all relevant documents from the court file along with a copy of the court order of removal.

None

I also certify the following:

J. I will successfully complete the two day mandatory Guardian ad Litem training required by the Pierce County Superior Court (only approved training qualifies) and under the laws of the State of Washington and immediately submit my Certificate of Attendance.

AGREE DISAGREE

K. My normal hourly rate is \$ NIA. My hourly rate to serve as an 11.88.090 Guardian ad Litem in guardianships is \$ \$210.00.

L. I am presently not serving, nor have I recently applied to serve, as a Judge or Commissioner pro tempore in Pierce County Superior Court. I understand that I am not permitted to serve in both capacities.

AGREE DISAGREE

M. I have no criminal history or license suspension or revocation.

AGREE DISAGREE

N. I am not the subject of any pending investigation or action by a government agency, professional organization or one that would result in either a criminal conviction or a license revocation or suspension.

AGREE DISAGREE

O. I will not accept any appointment involving a conflict of interest, and in the event I discover a conflict in the course of an appointment/investigation, I will immediately advise the parties, counsel, and court.

AGREE DISAGREE

P. I have read and understand the applicability to me and agree to be bound and governed by the Pierce County Superior Court Administrative Policy #3 for the Title 11 Guardian ad Litem Certified Registry.

AGREE DISAGREE

Q. I have read, signed, returned, and understand the applicability to me of the Pierce County Superior Court Administrative Policy #4 Title 11 Guardian ad Litem Code of Conduct and agree to be bound and governed by the Code of Conduct.

AGREE DISAGREE

R. I have completed in full, signed and attached the confidential supplement to this application.

AGREE DISAGREE

Note: If you disagree for any answer above (J-R), please explain in full on a separate page and attach it to your application materials.

S. Please provide full disclosure of the following:
(If more space is required use the Addendum sheet)

1) Any felony convictions or any convictions involving theft, dishonesty, or moral turpitude. N/A


2) Suspension or revocation of professional certification or license.

N/A

3) Pending investigation of action for either 1 or 2 above.

N/A

I certify that I have thoroughly studied the provisions and requirements of RCW Title 11 and believe I am fully qualified to be appointed as Guardian ad Litem for Guardianships in Pierce County, Washington.



Signature

Laurie

Print Name

03/23/2018

Date of signing

Tacoma, Wa

Place of signing

Please continue to next page.

Laurie Gibbens Application for Title 11.88 GAL Registry

Question I (1) – (6)

Experience and training as a hospital attorney for three years, a Title 26 GAL for almost five years, an attorney for over 20 years and a journalist before law school uniquely qualify me to be professional and thorough as I conduct investigations, interview individuals, assess evidence and information and present my analysis in a clearly written report.

As the sole attorney for a Navy hospital, during a combined total of seven years of experience in the Navy's Family Advocacy Program (FAP), a program that provides investigation and intervention into allegations of domestic violence, child abuse and child neglect, and as a Title 26 GAL, I have worked side by side with and consulted social workers, mental health professionals, medical providers, Child and Adult Protective Services, and even law enforcement. I have received training over the years in abuse and neglect, physical and developmental disabilities, and mental illness.

As disability attorney, I worked with individuals with physical and mental conditions and disabilities and received training on how these conditions affect them and services needed.

As a Legal Assistance attorney, I have advised hundreds of individuals on estate planning. Numerous clients were elderly or were seeking assistance with elderly family members or disabled family members. Training addressed assessing competency and the needs of incapacitated persons.

I have had personal experience with the challenges aging family members' face, the difficulties in finding safe living situations, whether independent or assisted.

I am pleased to know that among my colleagues in the Judge Advocate General's Corps I have a solid reputation for having a strong work ethic and being a forthright individual with respected insights.

I understand that a Title 11 Guardian ad litem (GAL) must remain current on applicable statutes, case law and best practices to effectively carry out their duty to represent the best interest of an alleged incapacitated person

My previous experience a Title 26 GAL and as an attorney provides me with an understanding of what the Court needs from appointed GALs and the importance of the role they play as an advocate whether for vulnerable adults or children. I am confident that if selected for the registry and appointed to cases, I would be able to fulfill the duties of a GAL in a thorough and professional manner.

Policy 4: Pierce County Superior Court RCW 11.88 Guardian Ad Litem Code Of Conduct

All Guardians ad Litem shall fully comply with this Code of Conduct and the requirements of Superior Court GALR.

1. The appointed Guardian ad Litem shall decline the appointment if he/she is not qualified, competent, or able to complete the matter in a timely manner.
2. The Guardian ad Litem shall maintain the ethical principles of his/her own profession in addition to compliance with this Code of Conduct.
3. The Guardian ad Litem shall promptly advise the court of any grounds for disqualification or unavailability to serve.
4. The Guardian ad Litem shall avoid self-dealing or association from which the Guardian ad Litem might directly or indirectly benefit, other than from compensation as a Guardian ad Litem.
5. The Guardian ad Litem shall not guarantee or create the impression that any portion of the investigation will remain confidential, and shall inform all witnesses that the information gathered by the Guardian ad Litem must be reported to the court.
6. All records, including contemporaneously maintained time and expense records, and excluding information that is confidential by law or sealed by court and as further defined by Superior Court Policy, of the Guardian ad Litem shall be made available to the parties and their attorneys for review upon request, without formal discovery request(s) being made. Copies of the records may be made by the parties and their attorneys under circumstances that assure that the file remains complete, organized and intact.
7. Once admitted to the **RCW 11.88** Certified Registry, all Guardians ad Litem shall fully comply with all continuing education requirements established under Pierce County Local Rules and GALR.
8. The Guardian ad Litem shall report to D.S.H.S. and the court, any adult abuse as defined in **RCW 74.34.020(2)**.
9. The Guardian ad Litem shall immediately advise the court if the guardianship case qualifies for a guardian ad litem at public expense. Before significant work is performed or time elapsed the guardian ad litem shall return the case for reassignment.

The undersigned acknowledges receipt of the foregoing, has read the same and GALR, and agrees to be governed by all.

March 23, 2018
Date

Laurie K. Meis
Signature

[Amended effective June 6, 2016]

Laurie Gibbens, J. D., GAL

2661 N. Pearl St. #251
Tacoma, WA 98407

253-441-5425
lauriegibbens@outlook.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Over twenty years of combined legal experience as an attorney, member of the United States Navy's Judge Advocate General's Corps and a Guardian ad Litem (GAL). During my career I have conducted and supervised many types of investigations including parenting/GAL, criminal, administrative and medical malpractice. In my work as a GAL, hospital attorney, prosecutor and Navy judge advocate, I have received training in domestic violence, mental health issues, physical disabilities, victim-witness issues, child development, child abuse and neglect, the needs of vulnerable adults and the aging. I have over seven years' experience with the Navy's Family Advocacy Program and have served as the attorney representative on the FAP Spouse Abuse Case Review Committee and also on the Child Abuse Review Committee. I have seven years of experience working with children as a children's librarian and in preschools.

SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

- Experienced investigator
- Apply pertinent laws, regulations & case law to each case
- Thoughtful, comprehensive analysis of issues
- Formulate informed recommendations
- Draft detailed reports for court & parties
- Skilled negotiator
- Legal counsel to leadership
- Staff leadership & supervision
- Meet deadlines
- Presenter/Trainer
- Family Law
- Health Law
- Administrative Hearings
- Regulatory Compliance
- Risk Management
- Equal Opportunity – Discrimination & Harassment Complaints
- Ethics & Standards of Conduct
- Military Law
- Litigation Support

PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Guardian ad Litem

- Interview parents, children and professionals including law enforcement, CPS, social workers, medical providers, mental health professionals, FAP and educators
- Assess children's needs and parents strengths and challenges
- Research pertinent family law statutes and case law
- Draft detailed reports for court and the parents with informed recommendations for parenting plans
- Testify at hearings and trials
- Certified as Title 26 Family Law GAL in 2013
-

Attorney / Staff Judge Advocate / Administrative Law

- Served as Staff Judge Advocate (General Counsel) for Navy commands including an aircraft carrier, a hospital, the headquarters command for the 21,000 expeditionary forces and a headquarters command for 12,000 reserve sailors assigned to 19 Navy reserve centers in seven states
- Advise command leadership on all legal issues including criminal cases, discipline, administrative law, personnel law, ethics and civil litigation
- Supervise and conduct investigations into alleged criminal offenses, discrimination and sexual harassment, ethics violations

Laurie Gibbens, J. D., GAL

- Served as voting member and command representation for combined total of seven years with the Navy's Family Advocacy Program's (FAP) Child Abuse and Spouse Abuse Case Review Committees

Prosecution & Litigation

- Prosecuted felony and misdemeanor offenses at courts-martial involving rape, indecent assault, child physical and sexual abuse, drug distribution and possession, fraud and larceny
- Appointed Article 32 (Grand Jury) Investigating Hearing Officer on six criminal cases
- As Special Assistant United States Attorney (SAUSA) prosecuted misdemeanors on federal property.
- Provided victim/witness assistance in all cases
- Provided litigation support to United States Attorney's Office on Federal Tort Claims Act claims in litigation.

Health & Disability Law

- Sole attorney for Navy hospital with staff of over 1300 dispersed across four locations
- Advised Commanding Officer and Board of Directors on all health law and legal issues, including medical malpractice, civil litigation, administrative law, employment law, and environmental law
- Supervised all investigations into claims of medical malpractice, patient care, provider conduct and performance and adverse privileging actions
- Advised the Executive Committee of the Medical Staff, Credentials, Bioethics and Risk Management Committees
- Certificates in Healthcare Regulatory Compliance and Risk Management
- Trained staff on ethics and Standards of Conduct
- Member Child Fatality Review Team
- As disability attorney represented over 360 sailors and marines facing discharge for medical conditions in the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) which merged the Department of Veteran's Affairs process with Navy processes

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Guardian ad Litem, (GAL), Pierce County Superior Court – June 2013 to present

Captain, United States Navy, Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAGC) –
Reserve Duty – Jan 2012 to present; Oct 2009 to Sep 2010; Oct 2000 to Jan 2009

Active Duty - Oct 2010 to Dec 2011; Jan to Sep 2009; Oct 1994 to Aug 2000

Current Position – Commanding Officer, the Navy Expeditionary Combat Command Center's (NECC) Legal reserve unit – Dec 2017 to present. NECC is the headquarters command for 11 subordinate commands with 21,000 expeditionary forces including Seabees, Coastal Riverine Force and Explosive Ordnance personnel. Reserve unit supports the active duty judge advocates at headquarters and lower echelon legal offices.

EDUCATION

Juris Doctor, Duquesne University School of Law, Pittsburgh, PA – 1994

Bachelor of Arts, Journalism, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND – 1986

University of Washington School of Law, Basic Washington Estate Planning Skills (28 Hours) - 2000

Certificate, Title 26 Family Law GAL, King County Bar Association – 2013

Certificate, Healthcare Regulatory Compliance, University of Washington, Seattle, WA – 2014

Certificate, 120 Hour Healthcare Risk Management Course, American Institute of Medical Law - 1997

Laurie Gibbens, GAL
2661 N. Pearl St. #251
Tacoma, WA 98407
lauriegibbens@outlook.com
(253) 441-5425

Received By
2018 MAR 23 PM 4:22
Superior Court Administration

March 23, 2018

Pierce County Superior Court Administrator
Room 334, County City Building
930 Tacoma Ave South
Tacoma, WA 98402-2108

Re: Laurie Gibbens Application for Title 11 GAL Registry

Dear Ms. Maine,


I am applying for the Pierce County Superior Court Title 11 Guardian Ad Litem Certified Registry. I enclose the following:

1. Application
2. Code of Conduct
3. WSP Criminal History/WATCH Check dated March 5, 2018
4. Resume

If you or the GAL Committee need any further information to consider my application please contact me at (253) 441-5425 or lauriegibbens@outlook.com.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,


Laurie Gibbens