

GUARDIANSHIP CERTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Meeting

Office of Court Administration
Tom C. Clark Building
205 W. 14th Street, Rm 605
Austin, Texas 78701
Friday, March 13, 2020
(10:00 a.m. Until Adjournment)

The meeting of the Guardianship Certification Advisory Board was called to order by Jamie Maclean, Presiding Officer, at 10:04 a.m. Jamie Maclean, Judge Gladys Burwell, Chris Wilmoth, and Jason Armstrong attended by teleconference. Toni Rhodes Glover did not attend. The staff members present were Jeff Rinard, Scott Gibson, and Michele Henricks.

Mr. Maclean welcomed Board members and staff to the meeting.

The Board reviewed and voted to approve the minutes from the August 16, 2019 Guardianship Certification Advisory Board meeting.

The Board considered the application for guardianship certification submitted by Tonya Barina who attended by phone. Upon proper motion and second, the Board voted to approve Ms. Barina's guardianship application based on her experience, including but not limited to, working at a bank for 23 years counseling people on financial matters, volunteering at church and assisting with care of her grandparents.

Deputy Director Michele Henricks gave an update on SB 31, relating to the establishment of a guardianship abuse, fraud, and exploitation deterrence program under the JBCC that was passed into law in the 2019 legislative session. The program is an expansion of the guardianship compliance project that has been in place the past few years to assist the courts in improving guardianship compliance. The Board acknowledged and expressed their appreciation to staff for the great work they are doing in the guardianship area.

Inez Russell and Clifford Walker, Friends for Life, gave an overview of the Certificate in Guardianship from the Baylor University Garland School of Social Work. Ms. Russell appeared in person and Clifford Walker appeared by teleconference. Upon proper motion and second, the Board voted to recommend an amendment to JBCC Rule 7.2(b) to allow successful completion of the Baylor Guardian course as a substitute for 1 year of the 2-year experience requirement. Staff was instructed to present the rule change to the Commission for approval and forward to the Supreme Court for adoption.

Director Jeff Rinard gave an overview of proposed amendments to JBCC Rules 7.2(b)(8), 10.5(b)(2), and 10.7(a),(b), and (c), relating to Guardianship Certification and Registration. The proposed rules are approved and being forwarded to the Supreme Court for adoption. They are as follows:

Guardians: Establish mandatory Texas guardianship training requiring applicants for guardianship certification to complete the one-hour online guardianship training on the Commission’s website.

Guardianship Registration: 1) Allows the Commission to direct proposed guardians to file online training certificates with the court to fulfill Commission’s duty to notify court that training is complete; 2) Criminal history and training requirement for out-of-state guardianship registration. For the purpose of registering an out-of-state guardianship that existed prior to June 1, 2018, the proposed guardian is required to complete the one-hour online training on the Commission’s website and undergo a criminal history background check, submitting digital fingerprints in lieu of name based searches to include FBI records.

A future meeting date of the Advisory Board was not scheduled.

There were no public comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.



Jamie Maclean
Presiding Officer



Date