

Examples Illustrating the Need for a Legal Guardian:

The Proposed Ward is referred to herein as “PW.”

- ❖ Struggles to remain focused and calm while performing a task, and must be presented with small segments of a task so that the PW does not become overwhelmed.
- ❖ Attempts self-harm, or to harm others, when the PW feels overwhelmed.
- ❖ Experiences debilitating anxiety if a routine of the PW is disrupted.
- ❖ Is challenged by extreme apprehension during turbulent weather and depends on the assistance of others to regain a sense of calm.
- ❖ Has difficulty assessing the motives and intentions of others, making the PW vulnerable to threats of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse.
- ❖ Is very trusting of others, and is eager to please others, placing the PW at great risk of someone taking advantage of that trust and harming the PW.
- ❖ Despite being told many times not to open the door to the family home, regardless of who may be knocking, opened the door to a neighbor who came by with a balloon bouquet.
- ❖ Is unable to lock or unlock doors using a key, increasing the risk of the PW for being unable to secure the PW or the surroundings of the PW.
- ❖ Needs assistance with bathing, brushing teeth, shaving, and other aspects of personal hygiene and cleanliness.
- ❖ Is unable to prepare meals, struggles with impulsive eating, and needs assistance to select a nutritious diet.
- ❖ Requires assistance with cutting or crushing food into manageable pieces, due to difficulties with chewing and swallowing as a result of decreased muscle tone.
- ❖ Needs assistance selecting modest clothing that is appropriate given the weather conditions.
- ❖ Would not know when would be appropriate to dial 9-1-1, or when to leave a building during an emergency, nor would the PW understand the need to move more quickly to seek safety, in the event of an emergency.
- ❖ Would be unable to articulate the name, address, or phone number of the PW, or that of the parents of the PW, if an emergency should occur.
- ❖ Is unable to navigate an unfamiliar location, even if the PW is given verbal or written directions.
- ❖ Requires assistance scheduling various doctor appointments, having prescriptions filled, and taking the proper dose of each medication.
- ❖ If the PW felt ill, would not know to call a doctor, would not be able to identify the appropriate type of doctor to call, and would not be able to communicate adequately the symptoms or health care needs of the PW.

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Examples Illustrating the Need for a Conservator:

The Proposed Ward is referred to herein as “PW.”

- ❖ Struggles with basic math and has difficulty comprehending the costs of goods and services.
- ❖ Struggles with differentiating the values of different sums of money.
- ❖ Can recognize coins and bills as currency but has difficulty doing basic addition and subtraction necessary to make “change” when purchasing such goods and services.
- ❖ Has no concept of getting correct change back in a transaction. For example, gave the teacher of the PW \$110.00 in exchange for pizza during a class “pizza day,” even though the PW was instructed that the pizza would only cost \$10.00.
- ❖ Is not aware that different occupations have different associated amounts of compensation.
- ❖ Does not understand the concept of saving money in order to purchase an item.
- ❖ Is unable to set or keep a budget.
- ❖ Is unable to pay any bills or other financial obligations.
- ❖ Is unable to manage a bank account or to monitor same for fraudulent activity.
- ❖ Does not understand the proper use of a credit or debit card.
- ❖ Without intervention, is apt to buy non-essential items over necessary items.
- ❖ Tends to simply “hand” money to others, regardless of whether the PW is financially able to do same while still providing adequately for the care of the PW.
- ❖ Would be unable to identify a financial scam, regardless of whether the scam occurred in person, via a telephone call, or via the internet.
- ❖ Is vulnerable to others who would take advantage of the PW financially, such as insisting that the PW pay for goods or services the PW would not otherwise purchase.
- ❖ Does not comprehend that the PW should be watchful of the possessions of the PW in public, or that someone may try to steal such possessions.
- ❖ Would not recognize if the PW had been robbed or if the possessions of the PW had been taken from the PW.
- ❖ Is capable of signing the name of the PW and, thus, is at significant risk for financial abuse, *e.g.*, credit card applications or sales transactions to which the PW cannot knowingly consent, as a consequence of the disabling condition of the PW.

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