RULE 17
PARTIES PLAINTIFF AND DEFENDANT; CAPACITY

(-) Designation of Parties. The party commencing the action shall be known as the plaintiff, and the opposite party as the defendant.

(a) Real Party in Interest. Every action shall be prosecuted in the name of the real party in interest. An executor, administrator, guardian, bailee, trustee of an express trust, a party with whom or in whose name a contract has been made for the benefit of another, or a party authorized by statute may sue in his own name without joining with him the party for whose benefit the action is brought. No action shall be dismissed on the ground that it is not prosecuted in the name of the real party in interest until a reasonable time has been allowed after objection for ratification of commencement of the action by, or joinder or substitution of, the real party in interest; and such ratification, joinder, or substitution shall have the same effect as if the action had been commenced in the name of the real party in interest.

(b) Infants or Incompetent Persons.

(1) When an infant is a party he shall appear by guardian, or if he has no guardian, or in the opinion of the court the guardian is an improper person, the court shall appoint a guardian ad litem. The guardian shall be appointed:

(i) when the infant is plaintiff, upon the application of the infant, if he be of the age of 14 years, or if under the age, upon the application of a relative or friend of the infant;

(ii) when the infant is defendant, upon the application of the infant, if he be of the age of 14 years, and applies within the time he is to appear; if he be under the age of 14, or neglects to apply, then upon the application of any other party to the action, or of a relative or friend of the infant.

(2) When an insane person is a party to an action he shall appear by guardian, or if he has no guardian, or in the opinion of the court the guardian is an improper person, the court shall appoint one to act as guardian ad litem. Said guardian shall be appointed:

(i) when the insane person is plaintiff, upon the application of a relative or friend of the insane person;

(ii) when the insane person is defendant, upon the application of a relative or friend of such insane person, such application shall be made within the time he is to appear. If no such application be made within the time above limited, application may be made by any party to the action.