LRGAL 2.2
Specific Registry Requirements

A. Adoption Registry

Education and Experience Requirements:

a. Attorneys

1) Member of the Washington State Bar Association in good standing; and

2) Two years of experience in the practice of law including at least three (3) completed adoptions.

b. Non Attorneys

1) Bachelor level degree in any of the following fields: social work, psychology, counseling, nursing, medicine, or equivalent field or equivalent work or personal experience in the areas of child, adolescent or family counseling or casework; or

2) Certified by the State of Washington as a social worker, mental health therapist or marriage and family counselor, or licensed as a psychologist, nurse, or physician in good standing;

B. Guardianship Registry

Education and Experience Requirements

a. Attorneys

1) Member of the Washington State Bar Association in good standing; and

2) Minimum two years of practice of law.

b. Non Attorneys

1) Five years experience in the following: Needs of the impaired, elderly people, physical disabilities, mental illness, developmental disabilities, and/or other areas relevant to the needs of incapacitated persons; and

2) For initial placement on the registry, completion of any training required by RCW 11.88.090 as amended.

C. Family Law Registry

Education and Experience Requirements

a. Attorneys

1) Member of the Washington State Bar Association in good standing; and

2) Two years of experience in the practice of law including a minimum of 10 completed dependency and/or dissolution cases with children to include post-resolution custody modifications; or

3) Meet the requirements C (b) 1) or 2) below.

b. Non Attorneys

1) Bachelor level degree in any of the following fields: social work, psychology, counseling, nursing, medicine or equivalent field or equivalent work or personal experience in the areas of child, adolescent, or family counseling or casework; or

2) Certified by the State of Washington as a social worker, mental health therapist, or marriage and family counselor, or licensed as a psychologist, nurse, physician in good standing; or

3) Such other educational or employment experience that is acceptable to the court.

c. Parentage Cases/Out of State Guardian ad Litem

In RCW 26.26 actions, a relative of the minor mother or father may be appointed who has complied with the requirements of RCW 26.12.175 and who is otherwise suitable.

In RCW 26.33 actions involving the need for an out-of-state GAL, a non-registry GAL may be appointed so long as the appointed GAL complies with the requirements of RCW 26.12.

D. Training

1. For initial placement on the registries, all guardians shall Complete all training and continued training that is required by statute, State or County court rules.

E. Appointments

1. Guardianships: Any person listed on the registry may be agreed to by the parties or a party may serve a written request upon the Superior Court Administrator's office, who shall appoint a GAL whose name next appears on the registry on a rotational basis in accordance with RCW 11.88.090(3)(a) subject to that person's acceptance of the appointment.

2. Family Law: Absent a joint recommendation from the parties of a person listed on the family law registry who has been approved by the Court, the

3. GAL shall be appointed pursuant to RCW 26.12.177(2)(b).

4. Adoptions: Any person listed on the adoption registry may be appointed upon stipulation of the parties and the agreement of the GAL to accept the case. Absent an agreement, the Court Administrator shall select the name of a GAL from the registry on a rotational basis, which GAL shall be appointed by the Court, subject to the GAL's agreement to accept the case.

F. Application

Each person requesting to be listed on any Guardian ad Litem registry shall annually submit an application on the current form provided by the Court and maintained by the Court Administrator.

[Adopted effective September 1, 2002; Amended effective September 1, 2010]