GERALD W. NEIL CHRISTOPHER E. NEIL DEBORAH J. JAMESON

#### NEIL & NEIL, P.S.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW 5302 PACIFIC AVENUE TACOMA, WASHINGTON 98408 (253) 475-8600 (253) 473-5746 FAX

June 7, 2022

Certified Professional Guardian Board c/o Administrative Office of the Courts PO Box 41170 Olympia WA 98504

Re: Comments on Proposed Regulation 708

Dear CPG Board:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the changes to Regulation 708. It appears the changes are primarily to make the regulation comply with new UGA terms. My comments are more about the rule itself, than your changes.

I wonder why the Board is proposing to change the name of the regulation from Voluntary Surrender of Certification (which seems very clear) to Retirement or Resignation and Termination of Certification. If the goal is to make sure the CPGC understands they are giving up their certification, perhaps the name of the regulation could be "Request for Termination of Certification".

The process to stop being a CPGC is fairly complicated if one follows the regulation. The CPGC must: (1) notify the Board in writing of their intent to retire/resign or request termination; (2) create an affidavit or declaration to comply with the rules; and (3) within 60 days of the initial written notice, file the affidavit or declaration with the Board.

The CPGC could, alternatively, give up all of their cases and not notify the Board of their intent to retire/resign. The Board would eventually decertify the CPGC for failure to complete education requirements or failure to pay annual recertification fees.

I think the process to retire or resign should be streamlined so that CPGCs will opt to complete the process and not leave it up to the Board to eventually decertify them. As an example, the WSBA has a one page fillable form if an attorney wishes to resign. I think this form could be a model for the Board. (See attached).

Very truly yours,

DEBORAH JAMESON

Encl: WSBA Form

Suggested changes to 708

Proposed form for CPGCs to Request Termination

### Guardianship and Conservatorship Program Regulations

708 Voluntary Surrender Retirement or Resignation and Request for Termination of Certification

708.1 Prior to retirement or resignation from practice, Aa CPGC or Agency may voluntarily surrender certification by shall complete a Request for Termination of Certification, notifying the Board, in writing, of the date of their intended resignation or retirement and request that their CPGC certification be terminated the surrender is to be effective and by complying with the requirements of this regulation. In order for the termination of certification to be approved, the CPGC or Agency must meet all requirements defined in Sections 708.1 and 708.2. Staff of the AOC staff is are authorized to grant voluntarily surrender status termination to of a CPGC's (or Agenciesy's) certification that qualify under meet these Regulations. AOC sStaff denials to voluntarily surrender status request must be of termination of the CPGC's (or Agency's) certification will be reviewed and approved for approval by the Certification and Application Committee.

708.2 The surrender of request for termination of certification shall not be effective until when the CPGC or Agency has met the following requirements:

Complied with all statutory and court-ordered requirements for discharge from responsibilities as a guardian or conservator in each case in which the CPGC or Agency has been appointed, with the exception that a guardian and conservator who is not a member of the individual's family and who charges fees for carrying out the duties of court-appointed guardian or conservator may retain guardianship and/or conservatorship over two individuals in compliance with the definition of "Professional guardian or conservator." RCW 11.130.010 (26);

708.2.2 Filed with the Board an affidavit or declaration signed under penalty of perjury stating:

708.2.2.1 Compliance with these requirements.

708.2.2. The address where communications may be directed to the former CPGC or Agency, and acknowledging a requirement to keep their address current with the AOC for 36 months following surrender the termination of certification.

708.2.2.3 That after surrender <u>the termination</u> of certification, the former CPGC or Agency shall not accept any new clients or engage in work as a CPGC or Agency unless recertified following the rules and regulations applicable to new applicants <u>comply with</u>

the definition of "Professional guardian or conservator". RCW 11.130.010 (26)

708.2.3 The CPGC or Agency shall file the affidavit or declaration required by this regulation within sixty (60) calendar days of the date of the written notice to the Board of the intent to retire or resign and surrender request termination of their CPGC or Agency certification.

708.3 Failure to file the affidavit or declaration required by this regulationa Request for Termination of Certification or failure to comply with other statutory or court-ordered requirements regarding discharge from responsibilities as a guardian or conservator shall subject the CPGC or Agency to revocation of certification.

708.4 The CPGC or Agency may revoke the notice of intent to surrender terminate their certification by notifying the Board in writing.



**Regulatory Services Department** 

## **VOLUNTARY RESIGNATION FROM MEMBERSHIP IN THE WSBA**

,, hereby declare my intention to voluntarily resign from the Washington State Bar Association.		
I certify that there is no disciplinary invehave no personal knowledge that the fili		
I acknowledge that, upon acceptance of Washington will be immediately terminathis state, it may be necessary for me to Bar Examination.	ated and that should I ever wish to	practice law again in
Dated this day of		, at (City, State)
License #	Signature	
Please provide a mailing address to whice rejection of your resignation. Contact in <b>myWSBA</b> at the following address: httpresigned from the Association until confidence.	formation may also be updated on o://www.mywsba.org. A member s	line by visiting
Address:		
City, State, Zip		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> If there is a disciplinary investigation or proceeding then pending against the member, or if the member had knowledge that the filing of a grievance of substance against such member was imminent, resignation is permitted only under the provisions of the Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct.



# CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL GUARDIANSHIP AND CONSERVATORSHIP BOARD

# REQUEST FOR TERMINATION OF CERTIFICATION

l,	, request termination of my	
certification as a Certified Professional Guar	dian/Conservator.	
I certify that there is no disciplinary investigation have no personal knowledge that the filing of	etion or proceeding pending against me and that I of a grievance of substance is imminent.	
·	ry and court-ordered requirements for discharge ervator in each case in which I have been appointed sional Guardian or Conservator" in RCW	
guardian/conservator in the State of Washir should I ever wish to become a certified pro would be necessary for me to re-apply for co		
Dated thisday of	, 20, at(City, State)	
	(City, State)	
CPGC # Sign	nature	
Please provide a mailing address to which the AOC can send notification of acceptance or rejection of your resignation. Resignation is not effective until confirmed in writing by the Administrative Office of the Courts.		
Address:		
City, State, Zip		