

Faulk, Camilla

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**From:** Kate Creasey [kcreasey@olympicwi-fi.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 23, 2008 8:32 AM  
**To:** Faulk, Camilla  
**Subject:** Proposed Rules for Certifying Professional Guardians

Dear Ms. Faulk,

I am writing in response to the proposed changes to GR23.

**Item c: Number 1:** I have an exception to the guardianship board being limited to no more than one-third membership by professional guardians. I believe that those who are active in this profession are capable of governing themselves. If possible I believe that either a 1/2 or more be considered. I am also concerned about appropriate representation when a large number of certified guardians are from rural areas and do not have the income or staff that those in more metropolitan areas do. I reside in Clallam county and currently do not have any active guardianships. At any one time I have carried 5 active cases at one time. When rules and decisions are made I believe that quite often those of us who do not have large practices or who do not collect larger fees are being ignored. I would appreciate some kind of provision that allows for our voice to be heard.

I have no comment on the other proposed changes to this section.

**Item d: Number 1:** I am relieved to see that background checks, credit report checks. I do have a question regarding the education and experience requirements. When I first became a guardian the process for requiring certification had just begun. I applied, took the training and was ultimately accepted at a certified professional guardian. I have maintained my certification by obtaining the continuing education credits required. I also attend other training that applies to my field even when not required in order to stay current with the issues I deal with in this field. I have an AAS degree, and have served as a guardian for seven years now. Under this ruling is an AAS enough? I believe in education but not to the point that guardians who have been serving faithfully for many years with no complaints or reports should be removed. I believe there are enough checks and balances in place to safeguard the ward when a professional guardian is in place. Regular reporting, E&O insurance, annual reporting to the board of any complaints or judgements pending etc. When I became a certified guardian for Clallam County I was one of only two guardians in the entire county at that time. I felt that our county needed a choice. I believe it would have been a very sad situation indeed had I not been able to step up and be available to act. It concerns me that there may be those who do not currently meet these requirements that would be removed from certification even though they have proven themselves over time to be prudent, professional and reliable choices for guardian. It also concerns me that if there are those who would be asked to step down from their position as CPG what would happen to those that person represents. In some areas this would mean transferring the guardianship to someone out of the area that might not be able to provide the level of personal care and concern the ward deserves.

I have no comments on the remainder of item d.

Thank you for your time and concern regarding these revisions.

Sincerely,

Kathryn M. Creasey, CPG  
#6139