

## LIMITED APPOINTMENTS

There may be situations where the court wishes to appoint a person in addition to, or instead of, a guardian ad litem or court visitor to fulfill very limited roles. This will help avoid conflict of interest situations for guardians ad litem or court visitors serving in a case and will limit the time and expense spent on cases that do not require a guardian ad litem or court visitor. A person appointed pursuant to this rule is strictly limited to the duties of the role below selected by the court. If the order of appointment does not specifically designate a limited appointment as listed below, the person appointed is presumed to be a guardian ad litem or court visitor, subject to the Guardian ad Litem and Court Visitor Rules. The court may make the following limited appointments:

**(a) Mediator.** The court may either appoint or refer to a person or agency whose role is to assist the parties in reaching an agreement about any or all contested issues in the case.

**(b) Evaluator.** The court may appoint or refer to a person or agency for evaluation and findings regarding a specific issue or issues including but not limited to mental health, substance abuse, issues of abuse or neglect, cultural factors, and sexual deviancy.

**(c) Visitation supervisor.** The court may appoint or refer to a person or agency to supervise visits and report findings to the court.

**(d) Settlement of minors' claims.** The court may appoint a person for the limited purpose described in Special Proceedings Rules (SPR) 98.16W.

**(e) Other.** Under exceptional circumstances, upon good cause shown, the court may make other limited appointments as it deems necessary.

[Adopted effective November 27, 2001; Amended effective December 10, 2024.]