

NOTICE TO THE BAR

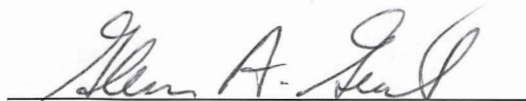
JUVENILE / IMMIGRANT CHILDREN -- APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF A CHILD ADVOCATE

The Supreme Court has authorized the appointment of a “child advocate” for a, unaccompanied immigrant child living with a family member or a sponsor in New Jersey. Like a standard guardian ad litem, the child advocate would advance the best interests of the child. The child advocate would also represent the child’s interests in related federal court proceedings, as well as healthcare and educational settings, subject to applicable requirements.

At this time, the Young Center for Immigrant Children’s Rights is available to provide a child advocate for a limited number of unaccompanied immigrant children who are now living with a family member or a sponsor in New Jersey.

Attached is the Court’s August 24, 2022, Order relaxing Rule 5:8B (“Appointment of a Guardian ad Litem”) and authorizing the appointment of such child advocates.

Questions should be directed to Assistant Director for Family Practice Joanne M. Dietrich at Joanne.Dietrich@njcourts.gov or (609) 815-2900 x55350.



Glenn A. Grant
Administrative Director of the Courts


Date: August 24, 2022

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to N.J. Const. Art. VI, sec. 2, par. 3, that, effective immediately and until further order, Rule 5:8B (“Appointment of Guardian Ad Litem”) of the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey is relaxed so as to permit the appointment in appropriate circumstances of a **child advocate** for an unaccompanied immigrant child living with a sponsor in New Jersey.

A court-appointed child advocate shall advance the best interests of the child, including advocating for services needed by the child in state court proceedings and, pursuant to any applicable requirements, in other court and out-of-court settings.

For the Court,



Chief Justice

Dated: August 24, 2022