

Marc J. Friedman
ATTORNEY AT LAW

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GLENN A. GRANT, J.A.D.
ACTING ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR
26 Church Street
P.O. Box 269
Liberty Corner, New Jersey 07938
(908) 542-1300
(908) 542-1301 Facsimile
Email: FrdmnLaw@verizon.net

August 17, 2016

VIA 1ST CLASS MAIL

Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.
Acting Administrative Director of the Court's
Rules, Comments – Guardianship Forms
Hughes Justice Complex
P.O. Box 037
Trenton, NJ 08625-0037

RE: Proposed Guardianship Forms


Dear Judge Grant:

I have had the pleasure over the past few years to be court-appointed counsel for many alleged incapacitated persons. I reviewed the most recent proposed model forms, and I have a couple of comments.

For some reason, the court ordered fee for appointed counsel often seems to fall into the cracks after the grant of the application, and issuance of the letters of guardianship. I have, unfortunately, had to chase some guardians in order to obtain the fee which was awarded by the Court. I believe that it would be useful for the model guardianship order to provide for payment to appointed counsel within a finite number of days. Obviously, varying circumstances of incapacitated persons may vary, and it may take some time for the new guardian to obtain the funds necessary for payment of counsel fees. If a blank space is left for the number of days, the court could, in its discretion, order the payment in the number of days it deems appropriate.

I appreciate the opportunity of commenting on this new package. It will certainly make the process more uniform and will eliminate the less complete complaints.

Very truly yours,


Marc J. Friedman, Esq.