

KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE

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ISSUED BY: Barbara Miner, Director and Superior Court Clerk

ISSUE DATE: December 31, 2020

ISSUE NO: 20-051



King County

CLERK'S ALERT

Case Management Procedures for Minor Guardianships in King County Superior Court

Per administrative general order 20-0-12050-5, in King County Superior Court Minor Guardianship causes of action under Title 11.130 will be primarily managed in the Ex Parte Department similar to other Title 11 guardianships. At the time of filing, cases will be given a case schedule with a date for the initial hearing set at 60 days from filing and will be assigned to a designated Unified Family Court Judge at the relevant courthouse. The 60-day hearing will take place in the Ex Parte Department, where the Ex Parte Commissioner will determine whether the petitioner has complied with all requirements and the case is ready to be finalized, or set for trial, the petitioner should be provided additional time to comply, or the case should be dismissed for failure to comply. Contested cases will be certified for trial before the assigned judge and, once certified, a limited case schedule may be entered, or the assigned judge may set a pretrial conference.

Agreed or default Minor Guardianship final orders shall be noted on the Ex Parte Guardianship Calendar, which is heard Monday through Friday at 10:30 a.m. At this time, all motions will be heard in Ex Parte unless specified in the general order, the anticipated rule or on the website. Initial orders such as for CPS background checks or required appointment of a Court Visitor shall be submitted via the Clerk.

At filing, Emergency Minor Guardianship Petitions will be given a hearing date before their assigned judge approximately 14 days from filing. Any immediate ex parte order can be brought to the Ex Parte Department. Per the statute, if an immediate order is granted, it will have a return date approximately five days after issuance. That return hearing will take place before the assigned judge on Friday mornings at 11:00 a.m.

Petitions for standby guardianship will be heard in Ex Parte, unless contested and certified by Ex Parte to be heard before the assigned judge.

Please see more details in the general order on the Court's website at:
<https://www.kingcounty.gov/courts/superior-court/ex-parte-probate.aspx>.

State pattern forms for both a Minor Guardianship and an Emergency Minor Guardianship are available at <http://www.courts.wa.gov/forms/?fa=forms.contribute&formID=125> and shall be used for all Minor Guardianship actions in King County Superior Court.

Additional information and a local rule will be available soon.



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