

Request for Guardian or Conservator

Someone has asked the court to assign you a guardian, conservator, or both.

1. Know the Terms



Guardian This person will make decisions about your care, education, and health.

Conservator This person will manage your financial affairs.

These professionals will encourage you to join in decisions. They will work so you can regain the ability to make your own decisions.

2. You can Disagree



- ◆ To a guardian or conservator being assigned.
- ◆ To the specific person wanting to be the guardian or conservator.
- ◆ To the powers, scope, and duration of the guardian or conservator.
- ◆ With having a hearing that is open to the public.

3. Your Lawyer



- ◆ You can choose and pay for your own lawyer. Or,
- ◆ If you can't afford a lawyer, you can request one from the court.

The court may decide to assign a lawyer regardless. This may be based on its own determination. Or, based on a *court visitor* recommendation.

4. You Have the Right to:



- A copy of the request that started the case. *(Called a petition).*
- Written notice of where and when the hearing will be.
- Request a private hearing. *(Closed to the public.)*
- A Hearing that reasonably accommodates you.
- Provide documents and call witnesses to testify at the hearing.
- Ask questions to witnesses.
- Have the court require someone to come to the hearing.
- Have the court require someone to provide you documents.
- Request an evaluation by a doctor before the hearing. The doctor must file a written report with the Court.

The Court may appoint a doctor or other professional. The doctor will evaluate your alleged impairment. Then, they will submit a written report.

5. What You Must Do



- Attend the hearing, unless excused by the court.
- Pay the costs of the proceedings. This includes your attorney fees. The court may decide otherwise.
- If a guardian is appointed, follow the federal firearms prohibitions.

6. Questions?



- Visit the court's website at www.courts.state.co.us/self_help for forms and instructions.
- Visit the court's self-help center.