



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT- 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Probate and Guardianship Division – Elijah Smiley Probate Judge

IN RE: THE GUARDIAN ADVOCACY OF

Case No.: _____

Name of Person with a Developmental Disability

(Form F)

LETTERS OF GUARDIAN ADVOCACY OF THE PERSON ONLY

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

WHEREAS, _____ has been appointed Guardian Advocate of the Person, _____, a person with a developmental disability who lacks the decision-making capacity to do some, but not all, of the tasks necessary to take care of his/her person; and

WHEREAS, the Guardian Advocate has taken and filed the prescribed oath and performed all other acts prerequisite to the issuance of Letters of Guardian Advocacy of the Person;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, the undersigned Circuit Judge, declare that _____ is duly qualified under the laws of the State of Florida to act as Guardian Advocate of the Person of _____ with full power to exercise the following powers and duties on behalf of the person with a developmental disability:

- ___ to determine his or her residence;
- ___ to consent to medical, dental, and surgical care and mental health treatment;
- ___ to make decisions about the social environment or other social aspects of the person with a developmental disability's life;
- ___ to act as representative payee of government benefits and to seek such benefits;
- ___ to apply for government benefits.

Without first obtaining specific authority from the Court, as stated in section 744.3725, Florida Statutes, the Guardian Advocate may not:

- a) commit the person with a developmental disability to a facility, institution, or licensed service provider without formal placement proceedings, pursuant to Chapter 393, Florida Statutes;
- b) consent to the participation of the person with a developmental disability in any experimental biomedical or behavior procedure, exam, study, or research;
- c) consent to the performance of a sterilization or abortion procedure on the disabled person;
- d) consent to termination of life support systems provided for the person with a developmental disability;
- e) initiate a petition for dissolution of marriage for the ward;
- f) exercise any authority over any health care surrogate appointed by any valid advance directive executed by the disabled person, pursuant to Chapter 765, Florida Statutes, except upon further order of this Court.

_____ (the person with a developmental disability) shall retain all legal rights except those which are specifically granted to the Guardian Advocate pursuant to court order.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Panama City, Bay County, FL this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Circuit Judge

Copies furnished to:

- *Proposed Guardian Advocate*
- *Next of Kin of the person with a developmental disability, if any*
- *Health Care Surrogate designated by the person with a developmental disability pursuant to advanced directives, if any*
- *Agent appointed by the person with a developmental disability under Durable Power of Attorney, if any*

Probate Clerk