In the
FAMILY COURT
of St. Louis County, Missouri

For File Stamp Only

FILED
SEP 11 2023
JOAN M. GILMER
CIRCUIT CLERK, ST. LOUIS COUNTY

Bethany Ulrich
Petitioner(s)

9/11/2023
Date

vs.

20SL-DR02386-01
Case Number

Joshua Ulrich
Respondent(s)

33
Division

Appointment of Guardian Ad Litem

The Court upon Motion by ☑ Petitioner ☑ Respondent ☑ its own Motion and in the best interest of the minor child(ren), J.D.U., pursuant to Mo. Rev. Stat. §§ 452.423, 455.095 or 455.513, appoints Cynthia Albin (Bar No. 46867, phone number 636-916-1500) as Guardian Ad Litem (GAL). The Guardian ad Litem shall be the Legal Representative of the minor child(ren) throughout these proceedings.

The Guardian ad Litem, prior to any hearing, shall:

1) If appropriate, interview the child(ren).
2) Conduct all necessary interviews with persons having contact with or knowledge of the child(ren) in order to ascertain the child(ren)'s wishes, feelings, attachments and attitudes.

The Guardian ad Litem may examine, cross examine, subpoena witnesses and offer testimony at any hearing in this cause.

The Guardian ad Litem shall be a party to this cause and shall be provided with copies of all pleadings, documents and reports relevant to the child(ren) and shall have access to all records of any agency or person relating to the child(ren) or such child(ren)'s family members. Any legal custodian of the child(ren) shall promptly execute release of information forms as requested by the Guardian ad Litem.

Upon receipt of this appointment, the Guardian ad Litem shall immediately submit an "Entry of Appearance and Acknowledgement of Obligation to Comply with the Missouri Supreme Court Standards of Guardians ad Litem." It is the Court's expectation that the Guardian ad Litem complies with the Supreme Court's Standards for Guardians ad Litem as follows:

At the time of this appointment and throughout the duration of this case:

The GAL must be a lawyer licensed to practice law in the State of Missouri, must have completed the training required by the Guardian ad Litem Standards and must act in accordance with the Rules of Professional Conduct. (See GAL Standard 1.0.)

The GAL's caseload shall not impede the GAL's ability to comply with the Guardian ad Litem Standards nor shall it affect the GAL's ability to comply with the ethical standards of the Rules of Professional Conduct. (See GAL Standard 2.0.)

The GAL shall be guided by the best interests of the child(ren) in all matters and shall exercise independent judgment in formulating and presenting recommendations to the Court. (See GAL Standard 3.0.)

The GAL shall participate fully in each proceeding and examine or cross-examine witnesses when appropriate, so as to advocate a position designed to serve the best interests of the child(ren), utilizing information the GAL has obtained in the GAL's capacity as Guardian ad Litem. (See GAL Standard 4.0.)
The GAL shall strive to make necessary arrangements to ensure that the child(ren) and the GAL have reasonable access to and contact with each other. (See GAL Standard 5.0.)

The GAL shall access all records relevant to the child(ren), the child(ren)'s placement or the child(ren)'s family members. (See GAL Standard 6.0.)

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The GAL shall adhere to applicable statutes, rules and regulations relating to receipt and redisclosure of privileged information received as Guardian ad Litem. (See GAL Standard 7.0.)

The GAL shall review the progress of the child(ren)'s case and advocate for timely hearings, provision of necessary services and compliance with court orders. (See GAL Standard 8.0.)

The GAL shall explain to the child(ren), when appropriate, the court process, the role of the Guardian ad Litem and the purpose of each court proceeding. (See GAL Standard 9.0.)

The GAL shall participate in and monitor service plans, parenting plans, proposed orders and staffings affecting the best interests of the child(ren), as appropriate. (See GAL Standard 10.0.)

The GAL shall participate actively and fully in all court proceedings. (See GAL Standard 11.0.)

The GAL shall strive to protect the interests of the child(ren) when the child(ren) is/are witness(es) in any judicial proceeding for which the GAL has been appointed and for which the GAL has received notice. The GAL shall strive to be present during all conferences between any counsel for a party and the child(ren) and for which the GAL has received notice. (See GAL Standard 12.0.)

The GAL shall make recommendations to the court when authorized by law or requested by the court on the basis of the evidence presented and consistent with the best interests of the child(ren). If the recommendations are inconsistent with the wishes of the child(ren), the GAL shall inform the court of the child(ren)'s wishes. (See GAL Standard 13.0.)

The GAL shall have completed all the Continuing Legal Education hours necessary to be and remain a Guardian ad Litem with this court. (See GAL Standard 14.0.)

At the conclusion of this case, the Guardian ad Litem shall file an "Acknowledgement of Compliance" with this court, indicating the Guardian's compliance with the Missouri Supreme Court Standards for Guardians ad Litem.

Petitioner is ordered to deposit ☑ with the GAL ☐ in the Registry of the Court $ 750.00 as and for reasonable costs and fees for the Guardian ad Litem on Account.

Respondent is ordered to deposit ☑ with the GAL ☐ in the Registry of the Court $ 750.00 as and for reasonable costs and fees for the Guardian ad Litem on Account.

GAL fees are subject to reallocation and shall be assessed as court costs.

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SO ORDERED

Judge/Division