#### JAMES A. FREDERICKA, JUDGE TRUMBULL COUNTY PROBATE COURT

161 High Street Warren, Ohio 44481 (330) 675-2521 fax: 675-3024 www.trumbullprobate.org

#### **GUARDIANSHIP OF AN INCOMPETENT ADULT**

**What it will cost**: The court collects a deposit when the application is filed: person only: \$161.00, estate only: \$161.00, person & estate: \$161.00.

\*\*The Probate Court accepts payment by cash, check, and money order only. The Court does not accept payment by debit or credit cards.\*\*

**What to expect**: The applicant will need to complete the packet of forms. Please note: The proposed ward must be a resident of Trumbull County. If applying for guardian of the estate, the applicant must be a resident of Ohio. Please type or print legibly in blue or black ink and sign where indicated; these are official court documents.

The Statement of Expert Evaluation must be completed and signed by either a licensed physician or a licensed clinical psychologist. (A statement of expert evaluation signed by an LSW, LISW, CNP, LPN or RN is not sufficient under Ohio law.) The statement of evaluation does not declare the subject incompetent, but is considered by the court as evidence of incompetency. Once this evaluation is filed with the court, it becomes confidential and accessible by court order only.

Once the application has been accepted for filing, the application is docketed and sent to the Assignment Clerk to schedule a hearing. A hearing is generally scheduled within three to four weeks. You will be notified by mail of the hearing date and time.

The applicant will need to submit to a criminal background check with the Trumbull County Sheriff's Department. The applicant must call the Sheriff's Department at 330-675-2540 for an appointment. The applicant will take the consent form and \$35.00 to the Sheriff's Department at the scheduled time. Results will be sent to the probate court.

The Probate Court will appoint a court investigator to personally serve notice to the proposed ward. All applicants for appointment of a guardian shall make arrangements to meet with the Court Investigator and review Courtwise, the Adult Guardianship Manual, the Ohio Guardianship Guide, the Guardian Dos and Don'ts and the "A Guardian's Helping Hands" video prior to the hearing on appointment. All are available on our website at www.trumbullprobate.org/guardianships. The Court Investigator may discuss with the applicant lesser restrictive alternatives.

On the day of the hearing, the applicant should arrive 10 to 15 minutes early and check in with the Probate Court's receptionist at the front office.

At the hearing, the Judge or Magistrate will review the application and review the guardian's duties. If the application is granted, you will sign an Oath of Guardian and receive your Letters of Guardianship. (If the guardianship is contested by the proposed ward or another applicant, an evidentiary hearing will be needed.)

### Dear Applicant:

In addition to completing the requested forms for Guardianship, an appointment with the Court Investigator **MUST** be scheduled at least two (2) weeks prior to the hearing date. Please call the Probate Court (330) 675-2521 and ask to speak with the Court Investigator.

Failure to schedule an appointment will result in the hearing being rescheduled for a later date or your application being dismissed.

## WEBCHECKS/ BACKGROUND CHECKS

- If you are required to have a WEBCHECK/background check, you must go to the Trumbull County Sheriff's Department to have the check completed.
- The Trumbull County Sheriff's Department is a separate department from the Trumbull County Probate Court. The Trumbull County Sheriff's Department sets the hours for completing the checks.
- Please call the Trumbull County Sheriff's Department at (330) 675-4040 for up to date information about when you can have your WEBCHECK/background check completed.
- The Trumbull County Sheriff's Department is located at the Trumbull County Jail, 150 High Street, Warren, Ohio 44481.
- The Trumbull County Sheriff reports that the cost for checks will range from \$35.00 to \$75.00, depending upon the type of check that must be performed.
- If you have questions or concerns about getting the WEBCHECK/background check completed or the transmission of your results, please call the Trumbull County Sheriff's Department at (330) 675-4040.

#### IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS PROBATE DIVISION TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO

) CASE NO.

IN THE MATTER OF:

	)	
	CRIMINAL BACKGROUN ips, Name Changes and Trusts)	D CHECK
I, the undersigned, hereby authorize th	e Trumbull County Sheriff's De	epartment to perform a
criminal background check using the V	WEBCHECK system, to have th	e results sent directly
to the Trumbull County Probate Cour	t to become a permanent part of	the Court's file.
	<u> </u>	
	Signature	Date
	Printed Name	
	Address	
	T-lankana Namb	D-4 f.D' 4
	Telephone Number	Date of Birth

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF					
CASE NO	CASE NO  APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN  OF ALLEGED INCOMPETENT  [R.C. 2111.03]				
					resides or has a legal
					County, Ohio and that
	-				·
The proposed wa	ard's date of birth is				
A Statement	t of Expert Evaluation	on is attached.	(Form 17.1)		
A list of Nex	t of Kin of Proposed	d Ward is also af	ttached. (F	orm 15.0)	
The whole e	estate of the prospe	ctive ward is est	imated as fo	llows:	
	Personal Prope	erty	\$		_
	Real Estate		\$		_
	Annual Rents		\$		_
	Other annual ir	ncome	\$		_
	ents that the applica		inistrator, ex	ecutor or other fiduci	ary of the estate wherein
Applicant offers the	he attached bond ir	the amount of S	\$	·	
				petent is necessary in asks that a guardia	
TYPE OF GUAI	RDIANSHIP APP	LIED FOR IS ور	check the appl	icable boxes]	
non-limited	limited	person ar	nd estate	estate only	person only
If limited guardiar	nship is applied for,	the limited power	ers requeste	d are	

FORM 17.0 – APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN (AN ALLEGED INCOMPETENT)

CASE	NO.	
	110.	

The ti	me period requested is $\square$ indefinite $\square$ d	efinite to		
Applic	ant's relationship to alleged incompeter	nt is		
sexua	applicant has (not) been charged with or cor I, alcohol or substance abuse except as follow conviction.)			
	The Applicant represents that a guardian h			
	The nominated person's contact information	n is listed on Form	15.0 (Next of Kin	n).
	A copy of the document which nominates the	ne guardian is atta	ched.	
	The Applicant represents that the proposed	ward had military	service.	
	Military I.D.:			
	Branch of service:			
	Dates of service:			
	Applicant represents that the address provious requirement that the court be notified of any comply with this requirement.			
	Applicant is currently guardian for the follow	ving number of wa		Person & Estate Person Only Estate Only
Attorn	ey for Applicant	Applicant		
 Typed	or Printed Name	Typed or Pr	inted Name	
Addre	SS	Age		
City	State Zip	Permanent	Address	
Teleph	hone Number (include area code)	City	State	Zip
Attorn	ey Registration No	Telephone N	lumber (include a	rea code)

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUA CASE NO.	RDIANSHIP OF
CASE NO.	_
	FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN I ALLEGED INCOMPETENT (ADDENDUM)
If the alleged incompetent is currently please specify:	y living at an address <b>different</b> from the residence stated
Names of a person other than the all where the alleged incompetent is livi	leged incompetent who may be contacted at the addressing:
NAME	PHONE NUMBER
List any agencies, either private or pub	olic, who may have knowledge of the alleged incompetent,
and may be of assistance in determining	ing the need for the guardianship:
List any problems the alleged incomp	petent may have in communicating:
DATE	APPLICANT
	DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER

		APPLICANT QUESTIONNAIRE
Na	ame:	D.O.B.
Αc	ddress	
		Occupation/Employment:
1.	What is your relation	ship to the individual?
2.	Are you a service p	ovider to the individual? Yes No If yes, explain:
3.	Describe the relation	ship with the individual, including how long you have known him/her, and activities when you meet.
4.	Did anyone recomi	end that a guardianship application be filed? Yes No ended and why?
5.	-	e are the behaviors that make the appointment of a guardian necessary
6.	What solutions to t	ese problems have been tried before filing for guardianship?
7.	Why do you want	become guardian of the individual?
8.	=	ently good health and with sufficient energy to meet guardianship Explain:

9.	helping	a know of anyone else who would also be interested in becoming the guardian or will be g you fulfill guardianship responsibilities? Yes No Explain:
10.	In gen	eral, what is your plan for overseeing the care of the individual?
	a.	Do you have sufficient time to fulfill guardianship duties? YesNo
	b.	Are you familiar with her/his medical problems and medications? Yes No
	c.	List the names of any community service providers and the nature of the services they provide. (APS, VNA, Senior Services, etc.)
	d.	Where will the individual live?
	e.	Is this an adequate setting?
	f.	Does this setting meet the needs of the individual? Yes No Explain:
	g.	What is the distance from your residence?
	h.	How often do you plan to visit, and how will you oversee these living arrangements?
	i.	Have social activities, recreation and entertainment been considered? Explain
	j.	How will transportation for medical care, recreation, etc. be handled?
	k.	If individual will be living with you, what arrangements can you make to take time of from these responsibilities/care?

11. **Mental Status Observation Checklist:** Record your observational impressions on a scale of 1 for significant impairment to 5 for average/normal functioning. Comment where helpful. (Circle ratings)

	Comments
a) Orientation (Person, Place and Time)	
b) Speech c) Motor Behavior	
d) Thought Process	
e) Affect	
f) Memory	<del></del>
g) Concentration & Comprehension	
h) Judgment	
11. Is the individual aware of the plans for guard and is he/she in agreement? Yes No _	dianship as outlined in the above information,Explain:
13. Do you currently have a power of attorney for If yes, describe:	
14. Do you now or have you ever assisted	the individual with his/her finances? Explain
15. Have you been charged with or convicted of	a crime? Yes No
16. Is the individual a veteran? Yes No	
17. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? Yes If Yes, explain:	
Remarks:	
Date	Completed By
	Printed Name

IN TE	IE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF	
CASE	NO	
	NEXT OF KIN OF PROPOSED WAI [R.C. 2111.04]	RD
	NOTE: Specify age and birthdate of each minor <u>under</u> 16 on the line containing the minor's address of the minor's parent, guardian or custodian on the name and address lines	
Service Waived	Name	Of Minor
	Address	
2. [ ]	Name Address	
3. [ ]	Name	
	Address	
4. [ ]	Name Address	
5. [ ]	Name	
	Address	Zip
6. [ ]	Name	
	Address	Zip
7. [ ]	Name	
	Address	Zip
8. [ ]	Name	
	Address	Zip

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ 10. [ ] Name \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant Date

15.0 NEXT OF KIN OF PROPOSED WARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OFCASE NO		
WAIVER OF NOTICE AND CONSENT		
We, the undersigned, do each of us hereby waive the issuing and service of notice, and voluntarily enter our appearance herein.		
We do hereby consent to the appointment of		
or some suitable person as guardian of		

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF	
CASE NO.	

#### FIDUCIARY'S ACCEPTANCE

#### **GUARDIAN**

(R.C. 2111.14)

I, the undersigned, hereby accept the duties which are required of me by law, and such additional duties as are ordered by the Court having jurisdiction.

#### AS GUARDIAN OF THE ESTATE, I WILL:

- 1. Make and file an inventory of the real and personal estate of the ward within 3 months after my appointment.
- 2. Deposit funds which come into my hands in a lawful depository located within this state.
- 3. Invest surplus funds in a lawful manner.
- 4. Make and file an account biennially, or as directed by the Court.
- 5. File a final account within 30 days after the guardianship is terminated.
- 6. Inventory any safe deposit box of the ward.
- 7. Preserve any and all Wills of the Ward as directed by the Court.
- 8. Expend funds only upon written approval of the Court.
- 9. Make and file a guardian's report biennially, or as directed by the Court.

#### AS GUARDIAN OF THE PERSON, I WILL:

- 1. Protect and control the person of my ward, and make all decisions for the ward based upon the best interest of the ward.
- 2. Provide suitable maintenance for my ward when necessary.
- 3. Provide such maintenance and education for my ward as the amount of his estate justifies if the ward is a minor and has no father or mother, or has a father or mother who fails to maintain or educate him/her.
- 4. Make and file a guardian's report biennially, or as directed by the Court.
- 5. Obey all orders and judgments of the Court pertaining to the guardianship.
- 6. Obtain the written approval of the Court before executing a caretaker power of attorney authorized by R.C. 3109.52

If I change my address or the ward's address, I shall immediately notify Probate Court in writing. I acknowledge that I am subject to removal as such fiduciary if I fail to perform such duties. I also acknowledge that I am subject to possible penalties for improper conversion on the property which I hold as such fiduciary.

Date	Fiduciary

## In the Court of Common Pleas Probate Division Trumbull County, Ohio

### **AUTHORIZATION**

I, the undersigned, hereby authorized Probate Court to perform a policed police department or agency as parameters.	background check with any loca	al, state or federal
	Signature	Date
	Printed Name	
	Date of Birth	
	Social Security Number	
For Investigator's Use Only:		
Verification: Source	Date	
Findings:		

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP	OF
CASE NO.	
	DIAN'S BOND 2109.04 (A)(1))
Amount of this Bond \$	
	are obligated to the State of Ohio in the above among, for ors, heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally.
The principal ha accepted in writing the duties and such additional duties as may be required by the C	of fiduciary in ward's estate, including those imposed by law Court.
This obligation is void if the principal performs	such duties as required.
	fails to perform such duties, or performs them tardily, r misappropriates estate assets or improperly converts them to
[check if personal sureties are involved.] county, with a reasonable net value as stated below.	the sureties certify that each of then owns real estate in this
Date	Principal
Surety	Surety
Ву	Ву
Attorney in Fact	Attorney in Fact
Typed or Printed Name	Typed or Printed Name
Address	Address
Net value of real estate owned in this county	Net value of real estate owned in this county
•	¢.

GUARDIANSHIP OF:
CASE NO:
COURT INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT ON PROPOSED GUARDIANSHIP [R.C. 2111.041]
GENERAL INFORMATION [To be compiled by Probate Court Investigator]
Individual's age Relationship to applicant
Individual's residence
Individual's highest level of education
Individual's marital status
Grounds for application (R.C.2111.01(D)):
The individual is alleged to be:
mentally impaired as a result of a mental illness or disability.
mentally impaired as a result of a physical illness or disability.
mentally impaired as a result of intellectual disability.
mentally impaired as a result of chronic substance abuse.
any person confined to a correctional institution within this state.
so that
☐ the individual is incapable of taking proper care of the individual's self.
☐ the individual is incapable of taking proper care of the individual's property.
the individual fails to provide for the individual's family or other individual for whom the person is charged by law to provide.
Documentation submitted and date of evaluation
Referral Source:

FORM 17.8 - COURT INVESTIGATORS REPORT ON PROPOSED GUARDIANSHIP

CASE N	Ю.	
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### **INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT**

I. Service of Notice
☐ Made at Individual's home
☐ Made in Hospital, Nursing Facility, or Community-Based Care Facility:
Name of Facility
Address of Facility
Administrator or representative served
Other
Date of Service of Notice:
Others present during the contact (if yes, list name and relationship)
A. Individual's understanding of the concept of guardianship:
☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor ☐ Unable to determine.
Explain
B. Individual's attitude to the concept of guardianship:
☐ Consenting ☐ Opposed ☐ Unable to Determine.
Explain
C. What is the individual's attitude towards the applicant serving as guardian?
☐ Consenting ☐ Opposed ☐ Unable to Determine.
Explain

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ין	CASE NO.
D. Is there someone other than the ap	oplicant that the individual would prefer as guardian?
☐ Yes	(name/relationship)  No
Explain	

Ξ.	Specific	request	s of the	individual	concerning	enumerated	rights

Reported by whom: \_\_\_\_\_

### II. Mental and Physical Conditions of Individual

A.	Individual's reported mental and physical diagnosis:
Ind	vidual's reported medications:

Mental Status Observations: During interview were impairments noted in the Individual's:

	Yes	No	Unable to Determine
1. Orientation (Person, Place and Tir	ne) 🗌		
2. Speech			
3. Thought Process			
4. Affect			
5. Memory			
6. Concentration & Comprehension			
7. Judgment			

Explain further if necessary:

			CASE NO	D	
C. Describe the Physical Condition of Individual					
1. Isolation					
2. Eating Habits					
3. Significant Weight Loss of	or Gain				
4. Sleep Habits					
5. Mobility					
Explain further if necessary					
D. Describe the Environme	ental or Living	Condition of the	ne Individual:		
1. Housing & Sanitation					
2. Risk of Accidents					
3. Physical Barriers	3. Physical Barriers				
Resource Availability					
Explain further if necessary	· ·				
III. Functional Capacities					
Activities and Instrument	tal Activities	of Daily Livin	g		
	Capable	Incapable	Unable to Determine		
1. Eating					
2. Dressing					
3. Transfer from bed					
4. Toileting					

			CASE NO	
5. Bathing				
6. Handling personal finances				
7. Shopping				
8. Driving				
9. Meal preparation				
10. Doing housework				
11. Using telephone				
12. Taking medications				
Explain further if necessary:				
significant others that could imparecommend actions needed:	act the go	iardiansinp iss	Je! TeS [] NO [	
B. Are there any special cha or sexual behaviors, or other vuli be considered as guardianship made? Yes ☐ No ☐ Explain t	nerabilitie decision	s) that pose a r s on living arr	isk to self or others angements and s	s, which should upervision are
C. Are there any allegations individual? Yes ☐ No ☐ Expla		ations of abus		 loitation of the

[Page 5 of 8 Form 17.8]

FORM 17.8 - COURT INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT ON PROPOSED GUARDIANSHIP

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_ Is there a need for additional medical, psychiatric, or psychological testing? Yes No If yes, give specific recommendations: Are there inconsistencies between the Expert Evaluation and the Court Investigator's findings that need further review by the Court? Yes \(\bigcap \) No \(\bigcap \) If yes, identify the inconsistencies and make a recommendation(s) to the Court: Are there unresolved issues/conflicts/ differences among the parties? Yes No If yes, would mediation be of assistance? Yes \quad No \quad Explain \_\_\_\_\_ Is there a power of attorney for financial affairs? Yes \( \Box \) No \( \Box \) Unknown \( \Box \) If yes, where is it located? Who is the attorney-in-fact?\_\_\_\_\_\_. Is there a last will and testament? Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown ☐ If yes, where is it located? Is there a durable power of attorney for health care/living will? Yes 

No Unknown If yes, where is it located? Give name and address of attorney-in-fact: \_\_\_\_\_\_. Is there an advance directive for mental health care? Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown ☐ If

[Page 6 of 8 Form 17.8]

yes, where is it located?

Give	name and address of attorney-in-fact:
K.	Is the individual a veteran? Yes ☐ No ☐
L.	Does the individual have regular visitors? Yes  No
	Source of the Information:
M.	If yes, who:
	Relationship of visitor(s) to individual:
N.	Did the individual express a desire to have visitors? Yes \_ No \_
	If yes, who?
	If no, why not?
V.	RECOMMENDATIONS: Given the above information and Expert Evaluation(s):
<b>A. IS</b> ☐ Ye	S A GUARDIANSHIP NECESSARY?  es  Person Only Estate Only Person and Estate Limited List Duties:
N	Explain and recommend a less restrictive alternative(s):
B. N	ECESSITY FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF:
Attori	ney 🗌 Independent Expert Evaluator 🗌
Are tl	here special urgency needs? Explain:

CASE NO.

#### [Page 8 of 8 Form 17.8]

C. VISITATION RECOMM	ENDATION:
Remarks:	
have communicated to the the individual the individual	notice to the alleged incompetent as required by statute and I individual in a language and method best understandable by I's right to be present at the hearing, the right to contest any nent of a guardian for his or her person, estate, or both, and by counsel.
Date	Investigator

CASE NO.

			CASE NO				
8.	Is the individual physically impaired?	Yes	□No	If yes: Description			
9.	Are there any special characteristics of guardianship:	the individual w	which should be co	_	the individual for		
10.	Are there any indication of abuse, negle  If yes: Explain	-			□ No		
11.	Do you believe the individual is capabl decisions concerning medical treatment.  If no: Explain	ts, living arrange	ements and diet?	Yes	or making		
12	Do you believe this individual is capable.  Yes No If no:	le of managing t Explain	the individual's fi	nances and property?			
13.	Prognosis:  A. Is the condition stabilized?  B. Is the condition reversible:	☐ Yes	□ No				
14.	In my opinion a guardianship should be Established/Continued  Denied/Terminated	o:					
I certif	y that I have evaluated the individual on			, 20			
Date:			Signature of Ev	aluator			
	GUARDIAN'S REPORT ADDENDUM (Not to be used with initial Application)						
It is my opinion, based upon a reasonable degree of medical or psychological certainty, that the mental capacity of this ward will not improve.							
Date _			Signature – Lic	ensed Physician/Clinic	al Psychologist		

### **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Date	
	Signature – Licensed Physician/Clinical Psychologist

### PROBATE COURT OF TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO

## JAMES A. FREDERICKA, JUDGE

Gl	JARDIANSHIP OF
CA	ASE NO
	SERVICE OF NOTICE INFORMATION FOR ADULT GUARDIANSHIPS [R.C. 2111.04]
wa	u are asking to be appointed guardian for an adult. Ohio law requires that the prospective rd be visited and personally served notice of the application by a Probate Court Investigator. e below information is required in order to assist the Court Investigator in this process.
Ple	ease provide the requested information with your application.
1.	At the time of the filing of the Application for Guardianship, the proposed ward is physically at:  Home Facility Other (please check one)
	Address (Do not answer unknown):
2.	Does the proposed ward leave the above location on a regular basis (day care, etc.) during the day? Yes No
	If yes, explain:
Inv	Please provide a name and phone number of a person who can be contacted by the Court estigator so that the Court Investigator may arrange a visit with the proposed ward (case manager, cial worker, nurse, parent, applicant, or attorney)
	a. Contact person's name:
	b. Contact person's relation to proposed ward:
	c. Telephone number:
	d. Best time for Court Investigator to contact:
4.	Has the proposed ward been told of the pending action? $\square$ Yes $\square$ No
5.	To ensure safety, should the Court Investigator be accompanied by someone or require assistance?  Yes No If yes, explain:

#### [Reverse of Form 17.10]

Date:	_	
	Applicant's Signature	
	be held unless this visit is completed at least 7 day change in the location of the proposed ward from the please contact at	ne time the

Effective Date: October 1, 2025