

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ARLINGTON COUNTY

IN RE: ADULT GUARDIANSHIP CASES
REGARDING COVID-19

)
) MISC. CM20-1062-01

**ORDER REGARDING GUARDIANS AD LITEM IN ADULT GUARDIANSHIP CASES IN
RESPONSE TO ISSUES RELATED TO COVID-19**

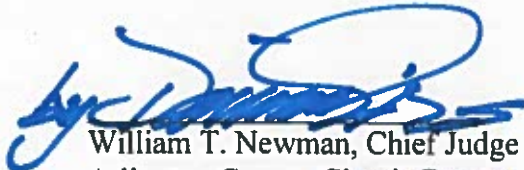
THIS MATTER came before the Court *sua sponte* regarding the impact of Covid-19 on the operations of the Court and upon the ability of attorneys appointed as guardians *ad litem* in cases petitioning for the appointment of guardians and conservators pursuant to Virginia Code Section 64.2-2000 *et seq.* and in light of the March 27, 2020 order of Chief Justice Lemons, the Governor’s March 30, 2020 directive and this Court’s COVID-19 related orders regarding the setting of emergency matters; and as to these matters, to the extent authorized by law, should be conducted by two-way electronic audio-visual communication or telephone.


In order to effectively manage the Court’s ability to timely hear adult guardian and conservator cases and the mandate to appoint an attorney to represent the respondent’s best interests as his/her guardian *ad litem*, it is appropriate for this Order to issue.


IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that should the facility in which the respondent of the petition is residing restrict visitation by the Court’s appointed guardian *ad litem* because of Covid-19 to protect the health and safety of the persons therein residing, the guardian *ad litem* appointed may “personally visit the respondent” via telephone or videoconference to comply with the requirements of Virginia Code Section 64.2-2003; it is further.


ORDERED that this Order shall expire on June 10, 2020, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

ENTERED this 8th day of April 2020.


William T. Newman, Chief Judge
Arlington County Circuit Court


Daniel S. Fiore, II, Judge
Arlington County Circuit Court


Louise M. DiMatteo, Judge
Arlington County Circuit Court


Judith L. Wheat, Judge
Arlington County Circuit Court