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The Guardian ad Litem Board is aware that some Guardians ad Litem are using the public domain as a means of seeking assistance pertaining to cases they may be working on.

Guardian ad Litem should be aware of our rules regarding the confidentiality of communications (specifically Gal 503.14, also listed below). Attention should also be given to rules 503.13 (d)(3) and 503.02(e)-(f) concerning seeking skill or knowledge about the subject matter of their case.

When outside communication is utilized, facts and detailed information should be kept to a minimum, except to the extent necessary to gather skill or knowledge. Under no circumstances should there be identifying information contained in the communication.

503.14

(d) A guardian ad litem shall, to the extent required by law, maintain the confidentiality of communications that are confidential under federal law or the law of the state of New Hampshire or which are specified as confidential by the appointing court.

(e) A guardian ad litem shall not disclose any information regarding the case which may serve to identify the particular case unless:

- (1) The disclosure is allowed pursuant to RSA 490-C:5-b, II, subject to such orders, prohibitions or limitations as may be issued by the board or its presiding officer under RSA 490-C:5-b, IV through VIII; or
- (2) The disclosure is:
 - a. Not otherwise prohibited by these rules, the orders or instructions of the appointing court or state or federal law; and
 - b. Necessary to fulfill his or her duties in the case.

503.02 (e) A guardian ad litem who believes that he or she is deficient in skill or knowledge regarding a material issue in a case shall take such action as he or she, in good faith, believes:

- (1) Will enable him or her to obtain such skill or knowledge; and
- (2) Is consistent with the best interests of the recipient of services.

503.13 (d) The guardian ad litem shall maintain the confidentiality of communications with the recipient of services, except that such communications may be conveyed to the extent permitted by law, including but not limited to the extent permitted in any of the following circumstances:

- (3) To other employees of the office in which the guardian ad litem is employed, if such communication is in furtherance of the guardian ad litem's assignment in the case;