



# **State of New Hampshire Guardian ad Litem Board**

## **Public Minutes**

**January 16, 2015**

Legislative Office Building Room 101

Members Present: Alan Cantor, Susan Duncan, Chair, Master Henrietta Luneau,  
Chris Keating, Vice-Chair, Betsy Paine, David Villiotti

Members Absent: Dave Robbins

Chairwoman Duncan called the meeting to order at 1:10pm.

A quorum was present.

### **1. Public Comment**

No public present.

### **2. Review Minutes**

November 21, 2014 Full Board: B. Paine made a motion to approve the minutes. A. Cantor seconded. Vote: 6-0. Motion passes.

### **3. GAL Statistics as of January 16, 2014**

- a. 88 Certified GALs
  - i. 2 are no longer accepting appointments
  - ii. 3 are temporary for the purpose of completing an appointment
  - iii. Technically, there are 83 Certified GALs able & willing to serve.
- b. 0 GALs expired in December & January
- c. 1 GALs are still within the 90 day re-certification period
- d. 60 GALs are certified in Family Division
- e. 68 GALs are certified in District Court
- f. 85 GALs are certified in Superior Court
- g. 75 GALs are certified in Probate Court

### **4. Board Actions & Updates**

The Board reviewed the list of House Bills possibly involving the Board or GALs. The Board did not see a need to act on any. Office staff will email the Board of new House Bills. The Chairwoman reminded members that if they are going to testify about a bill they are not representing the Board but they are an individual citizen.

Office staff thanked all Board members for returning Financial Interest Statements in on time. They were filed with Secretary of State along with the organizational chart.

The Board reviewed the new Supreme Court rule regarding GAL reimbursement fees. GALs will now receive mileage is now in addition to the hearing cap. This is only applicable to publicly funded cases.

The Board received a right to know request from Representative Michael Brewster through Chairwoman Duncan for the complaint statistics. That request was fulfilled. The office staff received a voicemail from Representative Brewster requesting the topic of each complaint from the beginning and who they are against. Board staff will send a reply that this information is confidential pursuant to statute and provide the website for decisions of founded complaints.

On Wednesday January 21, 2015 Chairwoman Duncan and Vice-Chair Keating will be making a presentation to the Children and Family Law Committee. The presentation is to make the committee aware of who the Board is and what it does.

## 5. CEU Requests

The Board reviewed an email sent by GAL Kristine Keeler regarding the Board's request for more information on her CEU request. The email states that she did not obtain an agenda, presenter bios, or course descriptions. C. Keating made a motion to deny the request. D. Villiotti seconded. Vote 6-0. Motion passes.

The Board reviewed an email from GAL Ardith Lee requesting a waiver of her CEU requirement and approval of a CPR training for CEUs. B. Paine made a motion to deny the waiver request as the Board does not have the statutory authority to do so. S. Duncan seconded. Vote: 6-0. Motion passes. S. Duncan made a motion to deny the CPR certification as a CEU. B. Paine seconded Vote: 6-0. Motion passes.

The Board reviewed a CEU request for Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Symposium for 6 CEUs. M. Luneau made a motion to approve the course C. Keating seconded. Vote: 6-0. Motion passes.

The Board reviewed a CEU Sponsor request for Crazy Little Thing Called Love for 6.5 CEUs. M. Luneau made a motion to approve. B. Paine seconded. Vote: 6-0. Motion passes.

The Board reviewed a CEU request for "I'm Ok, You're a X\$!#@&%!!!" High Conflict Behavior in Family Law Cases for 7 CEUs. It was discovered that this CEU was already approved by the Board under a different name.

The Board reviewed a CEU request for Parenting Coordination: Strategies for Helping Parents Improve Communication and Reduce Conflict for 12 CEU's. M. Luneau made a motion to approve. B. Paine seconded. Vote: 6-0. Motion passes.

*S. Duncan moved to go into non-public session for the purposes of discussing a matter which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of a person or persons who is not a member of this body pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(c). B. Paine seconded. A roll call vote was taken:*

*Alan Cantor, Aye, Susan Duncan, Aye, Master Henrietta Luneau, Aye,  
Chris Keating, Aye, Betsy Paine, Aye, David Villiotti, Aye*

### ~Non-Public Session~

C. Keating made a motion to go back into public session. A. Cantor seconded. Vote: 6-0. Motion passes.

B. Paine made a motion to adjourn. D. Villiotti seconded. Vote: 6-0. Motion passes.

### ~Meeting Adjourned~

S. Duncan called the meeting back to order at 3:13pm.

*A. Cantor moved to go into non-public session for the purposes of discussing a matter which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of a person or persons who is not a member of this body pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(c). B. Paine seconded. A roll call vote was taken:*

*Alan Cantor, Aye, Susan Duncan, Aye, Master Henrietta Luneau, Aye,  
Chris Keating, Aye, Betsy Paine, Aye, David Villiotti, Aye*

**~Non-Public Session~**

B. Paine made a motion to go back into public session. D. Villiotti seconded. Vote: 6-0. Motion passes.

**6. Judge Kelly Letter**

The Board reviewed the new Order of Appointment and letter from The Honorable Judge Kelly. They discussed that while it helps the problem a little of when a GAL is supposed to start their investigation it is still not clear. The Board agreed to wait and see if any complaints arise about this issue with the new Order of Appointment before writing to Judge Kelly again.

**7. Goals for 2015**

The Board discussed Goals for 2015 they include: Finishing the Rules Rewriting, Hold a CEU training for currently certified GALs to last about 5 hours, Meeting with administrative judges, Review the LBA audit, Chairwoman Duncan and Vice-Chair Keating will meet to discuss the changes to rules regarding training now that the entire state is Family Division.

B. Paine made a motion to adjourn. D. Villiotti seconded. Vote: 6-0. Motion passes.