

Jackson County Probate Court

312 S. Jackson St.
Jackson, MI 49201
Phone: 517-788-4290
Fax: 517-788-4291

Instructions for Petition for Guardianship of a Minor

Completed paperwork must be legible and typed or written in ink. The Court is required by law to refuse any paperwork that is not legible.

Do NOT use this packet if the minor is Native American.

Fees

- Filing Fee - \$175.00
- Certified Copies of Letters of Authority (optional) - \$10.00 per certification and \$1.00 per page (usually totals \$11.00 per certified copy)

Fees cannot be returned if your petition is denied.

Special Rules for Incarcerated Parents

If one, or both, of the minor's parents is incarcerated in the Michigan Department of Corrections, you will need to contact MDOC to determine the parent's prison number and which facility they are housed in. You will need to serve all documents on the incarcerated parent(s), and file a proof of service with the Court. Please note that when mailing to an MDOC inmate, the inmate's prison number must be included in the address. The Court will make arrangements for the incarcerated parent(s) to participate in any hearings by phone or video conference.

Forms

Below, you will find specific instructions for each form contained in the packet.

1. Petition for Appointment of Guardian of Minor (PC 651): Complete the entire form. If current contact information is unknown, you must make every effort to find a current mailing address for each parent. If the minor has no legal father, please indicate that in the name space for the father.

If the minor is 14 years old, or older, please have the minor complete item number 10 on the Petition.

2. Fiduciary Proof of Identity (optional): Complete this form with all requested information. The information required is the proposed guardian's information. You must attach to the form a clear photo copy of the proposed guardian's driver's license. This document is only used by the Court. It is not made available to the public.
3. Minor Guardianship Social History (PC 670): Complete the entire form. This document is placed in the non-public portion of the file.

4. Notice of Hearing (PC 562): Complete as much of this form as possible. Do not write in the date or time of the hearing, or the identity of the judge. This information will be provided when you file your documents with the Court.

5. Proof of Service (PC 564): After all paperwork has been filed with the Court you are responsible for making copies of all documents filed with the Court (not including the Fiduciary Proof of Identity) and serving them on all of the interested parties. Service must be completed at least 14 days before the scheduled hearing if served by mail, or at least 7 days before the hearing if personally served.

After serving all of the interested parties, you must indicate on this form who was served, how they were served, and when they were served. The form is then filed with the Court. Failure to file the Proof of Service may result in dismissal or adjournment of your case.

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT JACKSON COUNTY	PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN OF MINOR	CASE NO. and JUDGE
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Court address _____ Court telephone no. _____

In the matter of _____
First, middle, and last name

Petitioner's name, address and telephone no.

Petitioner's attorney, bar no., address, and telephone no.

1. I, _____, am interested in the welfare of the minor and make this
Name (type or print)
 petition as _____
Relationship to minor (i.e. grandparent, aunt or uncle, friend, limited guardian, etc.)

2. The minor is currently _____, is female, male, is unmarried, resides in _____
Age County
 at _____
Address City/Township State Zip
 and is presently located in _____ at _____
County Address (only if different than above)

City/Township State Zip

The minor is a citizen of the following foreign country: _____

3. The minor is not an Indian child as defined in MCR 3.002(12).
 It is unknown whether the minor is an Indian child as defined in MCR 3.002(12).

4. An action within the jurisdiction of the family division of circuit court involving the family or family members of the minor
 has been previously filed in _____ Court, Case Number _____,
 was assigned to Judge _____, and remains is no longer pending.

5. The persons interested in this proceeding are: Note: If a parent is incarcerated and under the jurisdiction of the Michigan Department of Corrections, the petitioner must comply with MCR 2.004(B).

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER			
	Parent/Age _____	Street address			
		City	State	Zip	Telephone no.
	Parent/Age _____	Street address			
		City	State	Zip	Telephone no.

5. The persons interested in this proceeding are: (continued)

*Also list persons who had principal care and custody of the minor during the 63 days before filing the petition.

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER			
		Street address	City	State	Zip Telephone no.
	Conservator	Street address			
		City	State	Zip	Telephone no.
	Guardian	Street address			
		City	State	Zip	Telephone no.
	Person with care/ custody of minor*	Street address			
		City	State	Zip	Telephone no.

If neither parent is living, the names and addresses of the minor's grandparents and nearest of kin who are adults are:

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER			
		Street address	City	State	Zip Telephone no.
		Street address			
		City	State	Zip	Telephone no.
		Street address			
		City	State	Zip	Telephone no.
		Street address			
		City	State	Zip	Telephone no.

None of these persons are under any legal incapacity except _____
 Name, incapacity, and representative of the person, if any

6. The minor is in need of a guardian because

- a. the parental rights of both parents or of the surviving parent have been terminated or suspended by
 - death.
 - disappearance.
 - confinement in a place of detention.
 - judicial determination of mental incompetency.
 - a previous court order other than an order appointing a limited guardian of the minor.
 - judgment of divorce or separate maintenance.

OR

- b. the parent permits the minor to reside with another person and does not provide the other person with legal authority for the care and maintenance of the minor and the minor is not residing with a parent at this time.

OR

- c. the biological parents of the minor were never married to each other and _____, the custodial parent died, has disappeared since _____, and the other parent has not been granted legal custody by court order. The proposed guardian is related to the minor within the fifth degree by marriage, blood, or adoption.

7. A temporary guardian is necessary because _____

I REQUEST:

8. _____, whose address and telephone number are
Name
Address _____ City/Township _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone no. _____
be appointed guardian of the minor.

9. The court order the parent(s) to provide reasonable support for parenting time with contact with the minor.

I declare under the penalties of perjury that this petition has been examined by me and that its contents are true to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.

Date

Signature of petitioner

Date

Signature of petitioner

Date

Signature of attorney

10. I am 14 years of age or older. I nominate _____ as my guardian, who lives at
Name
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date

Signature of minor

FIDUCIARY PROOF OF IDENTITY

(To be completed by all fiduciaries)

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY

File Name: _____

File No. _____

Full Name of Fiduciary _____

DOB _____

DL# _____

Home Address _____

Own
 Rent

Home Phone (including area code) _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Work Phone (including area code) _____

YOU MUST ATTACH A LEGIBLE COPY OF YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE

Occupation _____

Work Address _____

Employer Name _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Banking Institution _____

Address of Bank Branch _____

Banking Institution _____

Address of Bank Branch _____

Personal Reference:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (including area code) _____

City/State/ZIP _____

This document is for Court use only and will NOT be part of the public record.

Approved, SCAO

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF

NOTICE OF HEARING

FILE NO.

In the matter of _____
First, middle, and last name

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on _____ at _____,
Date Time

at _____ before Judge _____ Bar no.
Location

for the following purpose(s): (state the nature of the hearing)

If you require special accommodations to use the court because of a disability, or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arrangements.

_____	_____	_____	_____
Attorney name	Bar no.	Petitioner name	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
Address	_____	Address	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
City, state, zip	Telephone no.	City, state, zip	Telephone no.

USE NOTE TO COURT: If this hearing is for a guardianship matter involving an Indian child as defined in MCR 3.002(12), you must comply with MCR 5.109(2).

USE NOTE: If this form is being filed in the circuit court family division, please enter the court name and county in the upper left-hand corner of the form.

Do not write below this line - For court use only

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF	MINOR GUARDIANSHIP SOCIAL HISTORY	FILE NO.
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USE NOTE: File this form with the petition for appointment of guardian. This information is confidential and will not be placed in the public court file.

Parent and Minor Child Information:

Name of minor		Minor's birth date	Last 4 digits of Minor's SSN	
Minor's present address		City	State	Zip
Parent's name		Parent's birth date	Parent's name	
			Parent's birth date	
Father's name on minor's birth certificate	Paternity established through court proceedings		If yes, specify court and county where paternity was established	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Circuit <input type="checkbox"/> Probate		_____ County	
Minor's parents married to each other		Minor's parents divorced from each other		If yes, specify county of divorce
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		_____ County
Check any of the following that are true about the child or parent(s) and describe below (include the name of any case worker)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Child	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent(s): _____	Victim of domestic violence		
<input type="checkbox"/> Child	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent(s): _____	Had contact with the protective services unit of MDHHS		
<input type="checkbox"/> Child	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent(s): _____	Experienced a substance abuse problem		
<input type="checkbox"/> Child	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent(s): _____	Experienced a mental health problem		
Name of school child attends (specify if home schooled)				
Describe child's school attendance, behavior, and grades				
Describe child's relationship and extent of contact with parent(s)				
If the child is a member of an Indian tribe, or is eligible for membership in an Indian tribe and is a biological child of a member of an Indian tribe, list the child's tribal affiliation.				

Proposed Guardian Information:

Name of proposed guardian (including any prior names)		Birth date	Driver's license no.	Last 4 digits of SSN	
Present address		City	State	Zip	Length of time at this address
Relationship to minor	Home phone no.	Work phone no.	Cell phone no.	Best number to call between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.	
Guardianship of any other minor	If yes, give name and file numbers of each minor child				
Occupation	Employer's name and telephone no.			Length of time with this employer	
Check any of the following that are true about the proposed guardian and describe below (include the name of any case worker)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Victim of domestic violence					
<input type="checkbox"/> Had contact with the protective services unit of MDHHS					
<input type="checkbox"/> Experienced a substance abuse problem					
<input type="checkbox"/> Experienced a mental health problem					
Specify the date, place, and nature of any offense, other than a minor traffic violation, for which you were convicted; check if none					
<input type="checkbox"/> None					

Proposed Guardian Questionnaire: (the proposed guardian must complete all items below)

1. Describe the reasons for the guardianship.
2. Do the parents agree with this guardianship? Yes No If no, explain.
3. Describe the parents' visiting schedule with the child after you are the guardian. If there is no understanding about this, check none.
4. Describe any physical and/or mental limitations you have that would affect your ability to raise this child. If there are none, check none.
5. Describe the type (visits, telephone calls, etc.) and frequency of contact (daily, weekly, etc.) you have had with the minor in the past.
6. Explain how you propose to handle the additional financial burden of this guardianship. List annual income of the household and the sources of that income.
7. Describe the sleeping space you have in your home for this child.
8. Indicate how many other children live in your home.
9. Describe the methods of discipline you would use to control this child.
10. Provide the full name and date of birth of every adult living in the home.
11. List two people the court may contact for references. Provide their names, addresses, and telephone numbers.
12. Specify any other information you believe would be helpful to the court.

Date

Signature

Approved, SCAO

STATE OF MICHIGAN
 PROBATE COURT
 COUNTY OF JACKSON

PROOF OF SERVICE

FILE NO.

In the matter of _____

1. Titles of the papers served or mailed: _____

2. According to court rule, I served by first-class mail registered mail (copy of return receipt attached)
 certified mail (copy of return receipt attached) the papers described above on:

Name	Complete address of service	Date

3. According to court rule, I served by **personal service** the papers described above on:

Name	Complete address of service	Date and Time

4. After diligent search and inquiry, I have been unable to find and serve the following interested persons. I have served these persons by publication. Attached are copies of form PC 617.

I declare under the penalties of perjury that this proof of service has been examined by me and that its contents are true to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.

Service fee	Miles traveled	Fee	TOTAL FEE
\$		\$	
Incorrect address fee	Miles traveled	Fee	
\$		\$	\$

_____ Date

_____ Signature

_____ Name (Type or Print)

USE NOTE: If this form is being filed in the circuit court family division, please enter the court name and county in the upper left-hand corner of the form.

Do not write below this line - For court use only

STATE OF MICHIGAN JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY PROBATE	ADDENDUM TO PROTECTED PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION	CASE NO. and JUDGE
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Court address _____

Court telephone no. _____

Plaintiff's/Petitioner's name	v	Defendant's/Respondent's name
In the matter of _____		

This form is nonpublic because it contains personal identifying information (PII) that is protected from public inspection under MCR 1.109(D)(9)(a). Use this form to provide PII only for a person who is a NOT a defendant, respondent, or decedent. If the person is a defendant, respondent, or decedent use form MC 97.

Instructions:

- When PII (such as date of birth) must be filed with the court on a public document, DO NOT include it on that public document. Instead, you must provide it on this form.
- Provide only the protected PII required for your particular case. For example, if you are filing a public document that requires you to provide a date of birth to the court, complete only that field on this form.

Name of form/document that this MC 97a is being filed with: _____

Printed name of individual completing form and date _____

Ref. No.	Instructions: Provide the name of the person that the PII applies to, followed by the specific PII that is required. For Other, specify the type of PII in addition to the PII itself - for example, Social Security No. XXXX. Use the below reference number (Ref. No.) in the public document in place of the protected PII. For example, insert "Ref. No. XX" in place of the DOB in the public document.		
	Name	DOB	Other
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			