



CIRCUIT COURT OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI
FAMILY COURT DIVISION
625 EAST 26TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64108-2719

POLICY & PROCEDURE

Issued by: Director of Office of the Guardian ad Litem – Family Court

Topic: **Policy No. 1030-12 -- GAL Standard 12 – Protecting the Child as a Witness**

Effective Date: July 7, 2015

New:

Revised:

Rescinds:

Reviewed: June 1, 2018

POLICY:

The Office of the Guardian ad Litem (OGAL) shall protect the interest of a child who is a witness in a proceeding in which OGAL has been appointed to represent said child and in ancillary cases to the extent allowed.

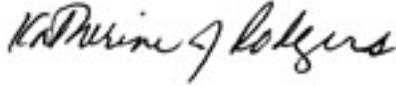
PROCEDURES:

1. The assigned Guardian ad Litem (GAL) attorney will be present at any conference/meeting/deposition between counsel for a party and the child.
2. The assigned GAL attorney will endeavor to prevent the child from participating in multiple depositions and repetitive examinations.
3. The assigned GAL attorney shall file any necessary Motion(s) for Protective Order(s) to protect the best interest of the client.
4. If the child must testify or undergo a deposition, the assigned GAL attorney shall meet with the child before the child testifies to explain the proceeding.
5. The assigned GAL attorney shall, to the extent possible, go over the questions that might be asked of the child prior to the deposition or trial testimony.
6. The assigned GAL attorney shall attempt to make the child familiar and comfortable with the courtroom.

Policy No. 1030-12 – GAL Standard 12 - Protecting the Child as a Witness

REVISIONS: The proponent for this policy is the Director of the Office of Guardian ad Litem. If you have recommended changes or want to report errors, send your suggestions to the Director of Guardian ad Litem, Family Justice Center, 625 East 26th Street, Kansas City, MO 64108.

REVIEW DATE: July 1, 2019



June 1, 2018

Kathy J. Rodgers
Director of Office of the Guardian ad Litem-Family Court

Date

APPLICABLE STANDARDS:

None

CC: Deputy Court Administrator – Family Court Division