



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. 1030-22 -- Courtroom Teams**

Effective Date: July 7, 2015

New: Revised: Rescinds: Reviewed: June 1, 2018

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Office of the Guardian ad Litem (OGAL) to have a team of attorney and non-attorney staff assigned to each courtroom.

PROCEDURES:

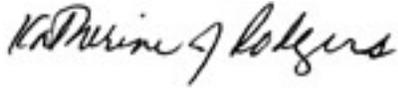
1. Attorneys and non-attorney staff will be assigned to each courtroom.
2. We will continue to have a non-attorney staff assigned to work with OGAL clients in residential placements.
3. Each courtroom team will meet on a regular basis to discuss their cases and divide tasks that need to be completed.
4. Because of the way Family Support Teams (FSTs) are currently scheduled we cannot at this time assign meetings by a particular courtroom team, but any follow-up that needs to be done after a meeting will done, as much as practicable, by someone on the courtroom team.
5. Adoption staffings will be handled by someone from the courtroom team for that child.
6. The non-attorney staff have the authority, in staffings which would include FSTs, to ask questions and receive information from other team members They are also authorized to relay, in staffings, information relevant to said staffing to team members and other parties. In addition, non-attorney staff are authorized to give opinions regarding placements, services and goals, with the understanding that those opinions may not necessarily be the final

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recommendations of the assigned Guardian ad Litem (GAL) attorney to the court. The non-attorney staff are not to interpret court orders for the Children’s Division or other parties.

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