



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. 1030-14 -- GAL Standard 14 – Training**

Effective Date: July 7, 2015

New: Revised: X Rescinds: Reviewed:

POLICY:

The Office of the Guardian ad Litem (OGAL) attorneys shall attend to training to maintain good Standing with the Missouri Bar Association and to comply with the Missouri Guardian ad Litem standards. All OGAL staff shall attend training relevant to determining the best interest of the child.

PROCEDURES:

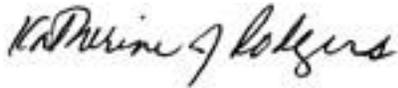
1. OGAL attorneys will complete fifteen (15) hours of Continuing Legal Education (CLE) every year. Each attorney shall complete two (2) hours of ethics CLEs every year.
 - a. OGAL attorneys will complete an initial eight hours of CLE devoted to GAL training before serving as a GAL.
 - b. Each year, OGAL attorneys shall complete three hours of CLE devoted to Guardian ad Litem (GAL) training.
 - c. OGAL attorneys will complete a program in permanency planning.
2. OGAL staff shall take advantage of regular training courses in cultural competency and implicit bias, child and adolescent development, domestic violence prevention and treatment, identifying substance abuse, identifying mental health needs, mental health treatment including trauma-focused interventions and suicide risk and prevention, gender specific considerations including identity and trafficking, family dynamics, court etiquette and professionalism, appropriate communication and interactions, trauma informed care, anti discrimination and

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disproportionate minority contact and other courses relevant to representing children in child dependency cases.

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:

Juvenile Officer Performance Standard: 1.18

CC: Deputy Court Administrator – Family Court Division