

Filing Fee \$20.00

**Petition to Terminate  
or Modify  
Adult Guardianship**

## Options You Should Know Before Filing a Petition for a Full Adult Guardianship

Sometimes adults need help taking care of themselves and making decisions. Michigan law allows a judge to appoint a “guardian” of an adult in certain situations where help is needed.

A court-appointed guardian can make decisions for the person who needs help. The judge will determine what decisions the guardian can make.

A guardian might be able to decide:

- where the person lives
- what medical care the person should receive
- who will care for the person every day

There are many things you should think about before you file a petition. If at all possible, the adult who needs help should talk to a lawyer to help figure out what is best for him or her.

There are options other than a full guardianship. Not all the options will work for everyone. Some of them will only work if the person is still able to make decisions. Some depend on what help the person may need. A few of these options other than a full guardianship are briefly described here.

### Conservator

A conservator is appointed by a judge to take care of another adult’s finances and assets. A conservator is not expected to use his or her own money to support the adult needing assistance. The court can also limit a conservator’s authority to certain kinds of decisions for the adult. The conservator:

- manages assets
- pays the bills
- makes general financial decisions for the person

### Durable Power of Attorney

An adult can choose to appoint someone to take care of his or her finances through a financial “durable power of attorney.” **The adult** must be of sound mind to sign this document. He or she can:

- limit when this document is effective
- limit what the appointed person can do

Because a durable power of attorney can be complicated and can give away a great deal of power, it is best that the adult seek the help of a lawyer to prepare it.

### Health Care Power of Attorney

You will sometimes hear this called a “patient advocate designation” or a “durable power of attorney for health care.” It is a document an adult can sign that gives someone else the authority to make care decisions when he or she is not capable. Those decisions could be about:

- health care
- mental health treatment
- living arrangements

The adult can give the “agent” or “patient advocate” as much or as little authority as the person wants. This can include authority to withhold or withdraw life support services. **The adult** must be of sound mind to sign this document and must decide he or she wants it.

Because this document can be complicated and can give away a great deal of power, it is best that the adult seek the help of a lawyer to prepare it.

**(See Second Page)**

## **Do Not Resuscitate Order**

If the adult is an inpatient at a hospital, his or her wishes regarding resuscitation should be discussed with his or her physician as soon as possible.

If the adult is not in a hospital, he or she can sign a document that will refuse CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). This document is known as a “Do Not Resuscitate Order” or “DNR.” The adult must be of sound mind to sign this document.

## **Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST) Form**

An adult can work with his or her attending health professional to complete a document that will specify types of medical treatment that are permissible. This document is called a physician orders for scope of treatment (POST) form.

A POST form contains medical orders that are jointly agreed to by the adult and the attending health professional or a patient representative and the attending health professional. A POST form is not intended to be used as a stand-alone advance health care directive. The adult must be of sound mind to sign the form. A POST form may be obtained through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

## **Limited Guardian**

A limited guardian is appointed by a judge to make limited decisions in certain instances. For example, the judge may say that the guardian can only make decisions about living arrangements. A limited guardianship can give a person some independence while providing the specific help needed.

## **Filing a Petition for Full Adult Guardianship**

To ask that a guardian be appointed for an adult, a *Petition for Appointment of Guardian of Incapacitated Individual* (PC 625) must be filed with the court. A judge will appoint a guardian only if the condition of the adult fits specific requirements. The specific conditions that must be met are found in form PC 625, which is available at your local probate court or at [www.courts.mi.gov/formssearch](http://www.courts.mi.gov/formssearch).

<b>STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT BERRIEN COUNTY</b>	<b>PETITION TO</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>TERMINATE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MODIFY</b> <b>GUARDIANSHIP</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>LEGALLY INCAPACITATED INDIVIDUAL</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MINOR</b>	<b>CASE NO. and JUDGE</b>
---	---	---------------------------

<b>Court address</b> 811 Port St., St. Joseph, MI 49085	<b>Court telephone no.</b> (269) 983-7111
--	--

In the matter of \_\_\_\_\_  
 First, middle, and last name

Court ORI	Current age of ward	Race	Sex	Current address of ward
-----------	---------------------	------	-----	-------------------------

Petitioner's name, address, and telephone no.

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

1. I am interested in this matter as \_\_\_\_\_  
 State relationship/interest

2. a. The interested persons for the minor, their relationship to the minor, and their addresses are:

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

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

- b.  The minor is a member of an Indian tribe, or is eligible for membership in an Indian tribe. The name of the tribe is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The minor is not an Indian child as defined by MCR 3.002(12).
- It is unknown whether the minor is an Indian child as defined by MCR 3.002(12).



10. Modify the powers of the guardian as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney signature

**NOMINATION BY MINOR:**

I am 14 years of age or older. I nominate \_\_\_\_\_ as my guardian, who lives

Name

at \_\_\_\_\_  
Address City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of minor

<b>STATE OF MICHIGAN JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY PROBATE</b>	<b>ADDENDUM TO PROTECTED PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION</b>	<b>CASE NO. and JUDGE</b>
--	---	---------------------------

Court address \_\_\_\_\_ Court telephone no. \_\_\_\_\_

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

**If this form is filed on or after April 1, 2022**, it will be maintained as a nonpublic document because the form contains personal identifying information (PII) that will be protected when amendments to MCR 1.109 become effective on April 1, 2022. 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:**

- Use this form when an SCAO-approved form instructs you to use it to provide PII.
- **Provide only** the PII required for your particular case. For example, if you are filing a 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

<b>Ref. No.</b>	<b>Instructions:</b> 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 document being filed in place of the PII. For example, insert "Ref. No. XX" in place of the DOB in the document.		
<b>10</b>	Name	DOB	Other
<b>11</b>	Name	DOB	Other
<b>12</b>	Name	DOB	Other
<b>13</b>	Name	DOB	Other
<b>14</b>	Name	DOB	Other
<b>15</b>	Name	DOB	Other
<b>16</b>	Name	DOB	Other
<b>17</b>	Name	DOB	Other
<b>18</b>	Name	DOB	Other

BERRIEN COUNTY PROBATE COURT/FAMILY COURT

File Name: \_\_\_\_\_

File Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**ADULT GUARDIANSHIP/CONSERVATOR**  
**RECORDS CHECK RELEASE**

Please be informed that the Berrien County Probate Court routinely completes guardian/conservator investigations as required by law. Pursuant to this requirement, it is the policy of this Court to complete a Protective Services Central Registry check/criminal/driving/history/prior bankruptcy check through LEIN or other services. Please provide the following information regarding the proposed guardian(s)/conservator(s). **PRINT CLEARLY. Attach photo identification (e.g. a copy of your driver's license)**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

RACE: \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER: \_\_\_\_\_

RACE: \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIDEN NAME/ NAME  
PREVIOUSLY USED: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIDEN NAME/ NAME  
PREVIOUSLY USED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

SOCIAL SECURITY #: \_\_\_\_\_

SOCIAL SECURITY #: \_\_\_\_\_

DRIVERS LICENSE #: \_\_\_\_\_

DRIVERS LICENSE #: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPLERE NAMES OF \_\_\_\_\_  
ALL OTHER CHILDREN \_\_\_\_\_  
AND ADULTS LIVING IN \_\_\_\_\_  
THE HOUSE \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

COMPLERE NAMES OF \_\_\_\_\_  
ALL OTHER CHILDREN \_\_\_\_\_  
AND ADULTS LIVING IN \_\_\_\_\_  
THE HOUSE \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I authorize the Berrien County Pronate Court to request information about me/us from any human services agencies (e.g. Michigan Department of Human Services) as may be appropriate and I also authorize a criminal/driving history/prior bankruptcy check through LEIN or other services.

DUE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of proposed guardian(s)/conservator(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

COMMENTS  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# CENTRAL REGISTRY CLEARANCE REQUEST

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Copy Photo ID Here

or

Attach a Separate Page

## SECTION 1 INFORMATION ON PERSON BEING CLEARED

Name, (First, Middle, Last)	Signature Required for Individual Being Cleared		Date
Also Known as Name (AKA)	Social Security Number		Date of Birth
Address	City	State	Zip Code
Phone Number	Email		
<input type="checkbox"/> I am completing this for myself. <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to pick up my results in		County (For Michigan Residents Only).	

## SECTION 2 REQUESTER INFORMATION

Check Appropriate Box <input type="checkbox"/> Employer <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption/Foster Care Home Screening <input type="checkbox"/> Court/Law-Enforcement/Department of Corrections/Prosecuting Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> Other			
Name of Agency or Organization	Name of Requester		
Address	City	State	Zip Code
Email	Fax	Phone Number	

**Employers/Volunteer Agencies** will ONLY receive responses of NO central registry if the person being cleared has approved this request with their signature. Employers/volunteer agencies will NOT receive notification if the name submitted has any central registry hits per CPL 722.627. For questions about completing this form, please contact the local Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, see attached contact list.

This clearance does not identify individuals who may have child abuse/neglect history in other states, territories or tribal trust land.

The confidentiality of central registry information is protected by Sections 7 through 7j of the Michigan Child Protection Law (MCL 722.627-722.627j). Anyone who violates this protection is guilty of a misdemeanor and is civilly liable for damages.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) does not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, religion, age, national origin, color, height, weight, marital status, genetic information, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, political beliefs or disability.

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF BERRIEN**

**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 \_\_\_\_\_  
Location Bar no.

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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney name Bar no.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner name

\_\_\_\_\_  
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

<b>STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF BERRIEN</b>	<b>PROOF OF SERVICE</b>	<b>FILE NO.</b>
--	-------------------------	-----------------

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	
\$		\$	
Incorrect address fee	Miles traveled	Fee	<b>TOTAL FEE</b>
\$		\$	\$

\_\_\_\_\_  
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

<b>STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT BERRIEN COUNTY</b>	<b>ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT</b>	<b>CASE NO. and JUDGE</b>
---	----------------------------------	---------------------------

<b>Court address</b> 811 Port St., St. Joseph, MI 49085	<b>Court telephone no.</b> (269) 983-7111
--	--

In the matter of \_\_\_\_\_  
First, middle, and last name

1. I have been appointed \_\_\_\_\_ of the person/estate.  
Type of fiduciary
2. I accept the appointment, submit to personal jurisdiction of the court, and agree to file reports and to perform all required duties.

3. For a period of \_\_\_\_\_ days from the date of my appointment, I exclude from the scope of my responsibility  
not to exceed 91 days  
 the following real estate or ownership interest in a business entity: \_\_\_\_\_  
Describe real property or business interest

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

because I reasonably believe the real estate or other property owned by the business entity is or may be contaminated by a hazardous substance, or is or has been used in an activity directly or indirectly involving a hazardous substance that could result in liability to the estate or otherwise impair the value of property held by the estate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Attorney name (type or print) Bar no.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Name (type or print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Attorney Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
 City, state, zip Telephone no.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 City, state, zip Telephone no.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Put DOB in row 10 on MC 97a.  
 Date of birth

<b>STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF BERRIEN</b>	<b>ORDER REGARDING TERMINATION/MODIFICATION OF</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>GUARDIAN FOR MINOR</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>GUARDIAN FOR LII</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>CONSERVATOR</b>	<b>FILE NO.</b>
--	--	-----------------

In the matter of \_\_\_\_\_  
First, middle, and last name

1. Date of hearing: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge \_\_\_\_\_ Bar no. \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COURT FINDS:**

- 2. Notice of hearing was given to or waived by all interested persons.
- 3.  a. A petition to  terminate  modify a  guardianship  conservatorship was filed with this court and should be  granted.  denied.  dismissed.
- b. On the court's own motion, the  guardianship  conservatorship should be  terminated.  modified.
- 4. The fiduciary  should be removed and a successor appointed.  
 should be permitted to resign and a successor appointed.  
 has died or become disabled and a successor must be appointed.  
 is not effectively performing the duties of a guardian and the welfare of the incapacitated individual requires immediate action and the appointment of a temporary guardian.
- 5. The individual  continues to be an incapacitated individual and in need of a guardian as a means of providing continuing care and supervision of the person.  
 continues to be a person in need of a conservator.  
 is a minor who continues to need a guardian.  
 is no longer in need of a  guardian.  conservator.
- 6. There is no qualified, suitable individual willing to act as conservator/guardian and the appointment of a professional guardian/conservator as fiduciary is in the best interest of the individual. A bond must be filed.
- 7. A coguardian is necessary.

**IT IS ORDERED:**

- 8. The petition is  granted.  denied on the merits.  dismissed/withdrawn.
- 9. The appointment of a special conservator is necessary to preserve the estate or secure its proper administration.
- 10. \_\_\_\_\_ is  removed  permitted to resign as \_\_\_\_\_ .  
Name of fiduciary Type of fiduciary  
 S/he shall file with this court and serve on the interested persons a final account no later than \_\_\_\_\_ .  
Date

(SEE SECOND PAGE)

Do not write below this line - For court use only

11. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name Address  
 \_\_\_\_\_ is appointed  
 City State Zip Telephone no.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Name Address  
 \_\_\_\_\_ is appointed  
 City State Zip Telephone no.

a. successor **guardian of the incapacitated individual** and qualifies by filing an acceptance of appointment. The guardian shall have the following powers:

full guardian with all authority and responsibilities granted and imposed by law.

except as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

limited guardian with only the following powers: \_\_\_\_\_

temporary guardian and shall serve until \_\_\_\_\_ with the following powers: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

In addition, guardian has the authority to execute a written consent for formal voluntary mental health treatment, unless objected to by the incapacitated individual.

Bond of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ must be filed.

The guardian is not permitted to act until letters of guardianship are issued. After qualification, the guardian shall comply with all relevant requirements under the law.

b. successor  full  limited  temporary **guardian of the minor child** and qualifies by filing an acceptance of appointment.  Bond of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ must be filed.

The guardian is not permitted to act until letters of guardianship are issued. After qualification, the guardian shall comply with all relevant requirements under the law.

The temporary guardian shall serve until \_\_\_\_\_ with the following powers: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

Child support shall be paid:  as stated in the placement plan.

\_\_\_\_\_

c.  successor  special **conservator** and shall have the following powers: \_\_\_\_\_

An acceptance of appointment is to be filed.  Bond of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ must be filed.

The conservator is not permitted to act until letters of conservatorship are issued. After qualification, the conservator shall comply with all relevant requirements under the law.

12. The  guardianship  conservatorship is  terminated  modified as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. The  attorney  guardian ad litem for the individual is discharged.

14. Other:

15. The matter is  closed.  not closed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney name (type or print) Bar no.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address City State Zip Telephone no.

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF BERRIEN

LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP

FILE NO.

In the matter of \_\_\_\_\_

TO:

1. You have been appointed  by will or other witnessed writing  by the court as \_\_\_\_\_  
guardian of the individual named above. Type of guardian (full, limited, temporary, etc.)

2. Having filed an acceptance of appointment, you have the care, custody, and control of that individual:

a. together with all authority and responsibilities granted and imposed by law.

b. except as follows:

c. as to the following powers and responsibilities only:

3. These letters of guardianship expire on \_\_\_\_\_ .  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bar no.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney name (type or print) Bar no.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, state, zip Telephone no.

SEE NOTICE OF DUTIES ON SECOND PAGE

I certify that I have compared this copy with the original on file and that it is a correct copy of the whole of such original, and on this date, these letters are in full force and effect.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy probate register/clerk

**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



## NOTICE OF DUTY TO VISIT

**You are required** by law to visit the individual for whom you are guardian at least once every three months.

## NOTICE OF REPORTING DUTIES

**You are required** by law to file with this court a written report on the indicated form(s) and at the indicated times. Forms are available at the court.

**CHANGE IN PLACE OF RESIDENCE:** You are required to promptly inform the court of any change in the ward's residence within 14 days of the change. You are also required to keep the court and interested persons informed in writing within 7 days of any change in your address.

### **ANNUAL REPORT:**

Your annual report on condition of ward is due on \_\_\_\_\_ of each year. (Use form PC 634 or PC 654.)  
Date

In addition, you must serve the report on the ward and interested persons as specified in the Michigan Court Rules and file proof of service with the court.

**ACCOUNTS:** You must file with this court once a year, either on the anniversary date of your letters of authority or on another date you choose (you must notify the court of this date) or more often if the court directs, a complete itemized accounting of your administration of the estate. On termination of the individual's disability, you shall account to the court or to the individual or that individual's successors. **The accounts must be served on the required persons at the same time they are filed with the court, along with proof of service.** (Use form PC 583 or PC 584: "Account.")

**ONGOING DUTY TO REPORT:** Pursuant to MCL 700.5319(2), if a conservator has not been appointed for the ward's estate and you determine that there is more cash or property that is readily convertible into cash in the ward's estate than was estimated by the guardian ad litem and reported to the court, you must report the amount of the additional cash or property to the court.

**DEATH OF WARD:** If the ward dies during the guardianship, you must give written notification to the court within 14 days of the individual's date of death. If accounts are required to be filed with the court, a final account must be filed within 56 days of the date of death.

**DELEGATION OF DUTIES:** You are required by law to notify the court when you delegate duties under a durable power of attorney.

**ATTENTION: The above provisions are reporting duties only and are not the only duties required of you.** These mandatory provisions are specified in court rules adopted by the Michigan Supreme Court. Your failure to comply may require the court to appoint a special fiduciary in your place and to suspend your powers. This may result in your removal as fiduciary. The court is prohibited by statute from giving you legal advice.

**KEEP THIS NOTICE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE**