Potential Guardian-Conservator Commonly Used Terms

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Conservator means a person who is appointed by a court or will to manage the estate and finances of a protected person.

Court Visitor is a person who visits with the potential guardian or conservator, incapacitated person and other people and reports back to the court.

Disability means any mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities of the individual including, but not limited to, self-care, manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, learning, or working, or a record of such an impairment, or being regarded as having such an impairment.

Estate means all property of the person, including community property of a surviving spouse subject to administration.

Guardian means a person appointed by the court or a will who has responsibilities of a parent over another.

Incapacitated Person means any person who is impaired except by minority to the extent he cannot make responsible decisions.

Interested Person means anyone who petitions the court and has an interest in a guardianship or conservatorship proceeding. Examples include children, spouses, creditors or someone who might be affected by the proceedings.

Protected Person means a minor or other person for whom a conservator is appointed or other protective order has been made. Protected person, incapacitated person and ward are often used interchangeably.

Ward means the person for whom a guardian or conservator is appointed.

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