

IN THE FIFTH CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: THE GUARDIAN ADVOCATE OF

Case No.: _____

LETTERS OF GUARDIAN ADVOCATE OF THE PERSON ONLY

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

WHEREAS, _____ has been appointed Guardian Advocate(s) of the Person, _____, a person with a developmental disability who lacks the decision-making capacity to do some, but not all, of the tasks necessary to take care of his/her person; and

WHEREAS, the Guardian Advocate has taken and filed the prescribed oath and performed all other acts prerequisite to the issuance of Letters of Guardian Advocate of the Person;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, the undersigned circuit judge, declare that

_____ is duly qualified under the laws of the State of Florida to act as Guardian Advocate of the Person of

_____ with full power to exercise the following powers and duties on behalf of the person with a developmental disability:

- to determine residence;
- to consent to medical, dental, and surgical care and treatment;
- to make decisions about the social environment or other social aspects of the person with a developmental disability life;
- to act as representative payee of government benefits or to seek such benefits.

Without first obtaining specific authority from the Court, as stated in section 744.3725, Florida Statutes, the Guardian Advocate may not:

(a) commit the person with a developmental disability to a facility, institution, or licensed service provider without formal placement proceedings, pursuant to Chapter 393, Florida Statutes;

(b) consent to the participation of the person with a developmental disability in any experimental biomedical or behavior procedure, exam, study, or research;

(c) consent to the performance of a sterilization or abortion procedure on the disabled person;

(d) consent to termination of life support systems provided for the person with a developmental disability

(e) initiate a petition for dissolution of marriage for the ward

(f) exercise any authority over any health care surrogate appointed by any valid advance directive executed by the disabled person, pursuant to Chapter 765, Florida Statutes, except upon further order of this Court.

_____ (the person with developmental disability) shall retain all legal rights except those which are specifically granted to the Guardian Advocate pursuant to court order.

DONE AND ORDERED in chambers at Brooksville, Hernando County, Florida this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Circuit Judge