DISTRICT COURT, WELD COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO

Court Address: 901 9th Avenue, Greeley, Colorado

80631

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## **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-01**

▲ COURT USE ONLY

Case No. 2020 CV 01

Division: 1

## ORDER REGARDING CHESTOR HOUSE GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM

The purpose of Administrative Order 2020-01 is to establish the processes and procedures for utilizing and administering the appointment of a guardian through the Chestor House ("TCH"), a non-profit organization in Boulder County, Colorado. TCH provides support to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

TCH initiated a pilot guardianship program several years ago in Boulder County in collaboration with the 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. The purpose of the Boulder pilot project was to provide funds to help pay for the services of a guardian for persons with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities in cases where no other payment source exists. TCH has since expanded the program to Adams County and the 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. TCH has graciously offered to expand its services to Weld County and the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, too.

- A proposed guardian may submit to TCH an application for the payment of fees/costs using the form designated by TCH. The TCH Board will review the application and make a determination, at their sole discretion, whether to approve payment of fees/costs to the proposed guardian. The decision of TCH is not subject to review by the court.
- 2. If TCH approves the application for payment of guardian's fees/costs, a contract for services will be executed between the guardian and TCH after the

- court appoints the guardian. TCH will notify the court that TCH has approved the payment of the guardian's fees and costs.
- 3. TCH will be added as an interested party automatically after the guardian has been appointed and the court has received written confirmation that TCH has approved the application for payment of the guardian's fees/costs. TCH's involvement in the case as an interested party shall be limited to allowing TCH to access the Register of Actions ("ROA"), and to receive copies of the initial and annual guardian's reports. TCH will designate an attorney of record in the probate case to view the ROA and receive guardian's reports. TCH's designated attorney may share the guardian's reports with the TCH Board members, the guardian, and TCH employees and contractors, but the reports and/or information obtained from the reports may not be disclosed to other persons, except for disclosures to law enforcement or the Department of Human Services as deemed necessary, absent a court order.
- 4. TCH will not affirmatively review or supervise guardianship services, nor will TCH make day-to-day recommendations or decisions for the protected person. TCH's role in guardianship cases is strictly limited to providing funds so the guardian may provide guardianship services to the protected person.
- 5. The payment of a guardian's fees and costs by TCH shall not in any way modify, limit, revise, or change a guardian's fiduciary responsibilities and obligations to the Ward and the court.
- 6. TCH shall maintain sole and complete discretion to authorize or deny payment to the guardian, and the decision of TCH is not subject to review by the court in this probate action.
- 7. TCH may, at the discretion of its Board of Directors, terminate, suspend, or revise this program at any time. If the program is terminated, suspended, or revised, TCH will provide timely written notice to the Chief Judge of the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. Upon termination or suspension of the program, TCH will be removed as an interested party in any applicable case.

Dated: January 8, 2020.

BY THE COURT:

James F. Hartmann Chief Judge, 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial District