

**APPLICATION / REAPPLICATION FOR GUARDIAN AD LITEM /
COURT VISITOR REGISTRY**
Family Law - Title 26 / Minor Guardianship - Title 11.130

Name: Karan Bergstrom
Business Name or Firm: _____
Business Address: 1535 Mitchell Rd Se
City and State: Port Orchard WA Zip Code: 98366
Business Phone: (360) 233-5191 Fax: (360) 878-2174
Email Address: Karan.Bergstrom@yahoo.com

☒ Non-Attorney ☐ Attorney - WSBA or Washington State Certification No: _____

- ☐ I am hereby applying to serve as a:
- ☒ Guardian ad Litem (Title 26)
 - ☐ Guardian ad Litem - Minor Guardianships (RCW 11.130.280)
 - ☐ Court Visitor - Minor Guardianships (RCW 11.130.280)
 - ☐ Attorney for ☐ RCW 11.130 Minor(s) ☐ RCW 11.130 Parent(s)

☐ I am willing to serve at public expense.

☒ I have no pending investigations or action against me involving felony allegations, professional certification or license suspension and/or revocation.

☒ I agree to advise the court immediately in the event of any complaint, investigation or action being commenced which could lead to professional discipline, or the suspension or revocation of my professional license, or to the filing of criminal charges for felony or crime involving allegations of theft, dishonesty or moral turpitude.

☒ I have read and agree to be bound by the Kitsap County Superior Court Guardian ad Litem Registry Code of Conduct.

Summary of my experiences as a Guardian ad Litem/Court Visitor, including years of experience and number of appointments.

Served as a CASA from 2005-2008 with 2 long-term appointments/dependencies. Served as a Kitsap County custody investigator for juvenile court from 2009-2018 with over 225 appointments. Served as a title 26 GAL since 2015 with 34 appointments.

Number of times serving as a Guardian ad Litem/Court Visitor that I have been removed for failure to perform my duties as a Guardian ad Litem/Court Visitor: 0

☐ I have completed the 2-day model training program required by RCW 11.130.155 (or prior 2-day training under RCW 11.88) and have provided proof of the same with this application. ☒ Yes ☐ No

- ☐ I have NOT completed the model training program but will do so once the training becomes available. ☐ Yes ☐ No

Summary of my knowledge, training and experience in each of the following areas: Needs of impaired elderly people, physical disabilities, mental disabilities, developmental disabilities, substance use disorder; and other areas relevant to the needs of persons subject to guardianship or conservatorship, legal procedure, and the requirements of RCW 11.130.

I include the following with my application (please check all applicable boxes):

- ☒ Curriculum vitae, showing work and professional or personal experience in or related to the field that would assist in the performance and completion of Guardian ad Litem/Court Visitor duties.
- ☒ Completed Washington State Patrol Conviction Criminal History.
- ☒ Signed release of information directed to all professional regulatory bodies which have licensed or supervised the applicant within the last ten years.
- ☐ Description of nature, status and outcome of any professional complaints, investigations or disciplinary actions, lawsuits or professional liability claims, and any order for removal of the Guardian ad Litem or Court Visitor prior to completion of the Guardian ad Litem/Court Visitor duties. *Ø complaints*
- ☐ Description of any claims or litigation that has been commenced, involving allegations of improper fee charges, charges of fraud, theft or other forms of dishonesty or professional malpractice or misconduct. *Ø*
- ☒ Copy of fee schedule. [See KCLGALR 5(f)(3) re: private pay limits].
- ☐ Certificate of Qualification/Training for Guardian ad Litem/Court Visitor seeking appointment under RCW 11.130;
- OR**
- ☒ I am currently on the Guardian ad Litem/Court Visitor Registry and have included a certificate of updated training taken within the last year.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED this 23 day of May, 2024, at Port Orchard, Washington.

Karan Bergstrom
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

PRINT NAME: Karan Bergstrom

Please mail, deliver or email the completed application, with all attachments, to:

ATTN: Court Administrator
Kitsap County Superior Court
614 Division Street, MS-24
Port Orchard, WA 98366
fmaiocco@co.kitsap.wa.us

Karan Bergstrom

P.O. Box 68

Port Orchard, WA. 98366

Objective

To find a position that will utilize my strength in working with all types of people in difficult situations.

Professional Experience

November 1996 – December 2005, *Customer Service/Collections Agent*,
Ancore, Kent, Washington (Contract Collections Agency)

- Imports and exports for International and Domestic for multimillion dollar freight companies.
- Managed accounts receivable and credit.
- Collections for Global Transportation, Alaska Marine Lines and Lynden Air Freight.
- Providing outstanding customer service and working with organizations to resolve billing, shipping and credit issues.
- Establishing credit for companies seeking to move freight.
- Worked with collections organizations to retrieve funds in a timely manner.
- Worked with companies that did not have existing collections departments to create and establish one.
- Multi-phone lines, fax machines, email, word processing and ProComm Plus software program.
- Dealt with difficult situations and clients daily.
- After five years of employment had the privilege and opportunity to telecommute exclusively from home all billable office hours.

November 1995-June 2004, *Customer Service Representative/Decorative Consultants*,
Silk Bouquet, Port Orchard, Washington

- Provided excellent customer service.
- Ran cash register and balanced daily.
- Utilizing creative skills and ability to create store displays and seasonal exhibits.
- Worked with wedding parties to design and create wedding floral.
- Answered multi-line phone.

December 2008 – June 2011, *Office Receptionist*
Sound Body Rehab, Port Orchard, Washington

- Used light office skills.
- Provided customer service to medical patients.
- Utilized the computer program Medisoft.

May 2009-2018, Custody Investigator for the Kitsap County Juvenile Department

- Conduct an independent investigation and recommend custody of minor children in family court cases.
- Make recommendations to the court when parents are in need of special services: for example drug and alcohol evaluations or mental health services.
- Writing and filing reports for Superior Court Judges and representing the Department in court proceedings.
- Aide parents in drafting parenting plans.
- Conducting a non-biased and confidential investigation.
- Updating and reviewing pertinent information to the case; including but not limited to, CPS reports, police reports, criminal histories, medical records, mental health records, evaluations, school records, and financial information.
- Observing visits between parents and children. Conducting scheduled and unscheduled homes visits for safety.
- Interviewing clients and potential witnesses for information and personal references.

Volunteer Experience

1994-1995, *Domestic Violence and Rape Center Advocacy*,
Whatcom County Crisis Center

2007-2020, *Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)*,
Juvenile Detention Center, Kitsap County

- Closely monitor and follow a child involved in an open dependency through the courts;
- Both in Foster homes and custodial parent homes.
- Advocate and be a voice for a foster child in all court proceedings.
- Write and submit written and oral reports to the court.
- Attend all meetings and court proceedings involving dependent foster child.
- Participate in yearly on-going education and training.

2010-2011 Parent Volunteer Assistant Drill Team coach for Marcus Whitman Jr. High

- Responsible for supervising, coordinating, and traveling with twenty-two junior high students.
- Current volunteer with backpacks for kids.

2009-2018, court appointed custody investigator for Kitsap County with over 225 case filed in Superior Court.

2015-present, court appointed Guardian Ad Litem through Kitsap Superior Court with 32 appointments.

Education

December 1993 associate degree from Olympic College

December 1995, bachelor's in communications, minor in Sociology
Western Washington University

February 2015 Title 26 family law Guardian Ad Litem training

April 2016 Title 26 Guardian Ad Litem updated training.

May 2017 Title 26 Guardian Ad Litem updated training.

April 2018 Title 26 Guardian Ad Litem updated training.

May 2019 Title 26 Guardian Ad Litem updated training.

April 2021 Title 26 Guardian Ad Litem updated training.

April 2022 Title 26 Guardian Ad Litem updated training.

May 2023 Title 26 Guardian Ad Litem updated training.

May 2024 Title 26 Guardian Ad Litem updated training.

On-going continued education through the Kitsap County Juvenile Department in the form of classes, seminars, and workshops from 2007-2018, including 2018 human trafficking training via Scarlet Road.

RELEASE OF INFORMATION

- TO: ☐ Washington State Bar Association
☐ Washington State Medical Association
☐ Washington State Nursing Commission
☐ Washington State Board of Psychology
☐ Washington State Department of Licensing

I, Karan Bergstrom
(Professional License No. _____) hereby authorize you, for
the purpose of my application and/or work as a Kitsap County Guardian ad
Litem, to release information to and discuss such information with:

Frank A. Maiocco, Jr.
Court Administrator
Kitsap County Superior Court
614 Division Street, MS-24
Port Orchard, WA 98366
(360) 337-7140

This RELEASE OF INFORMATION includes, but is not
limited to, all records and information concerning any official disciplinary
action or a pending active investigation you have with regard to me.

Karan Bergstrom
Signature

5-23-24
Date

Karan Bergstrom
Printed Name

2635 Mitchel Rd SE
Street Address

Port Orchard, WA 98364
City/State/Zip

Karan Bergstrom
2535 Mitchel Rd SE
Port Orchard, WA. 98366
(360)633-5696

Fee Schedule

Retainer - \$2500.00

Hourly rate - \$150.00, which includes travel time.

Order appointing GAL should authorize an additional retainer without court approval.

Trial fees- \$200.00 per hour. \$2000.00 retainer, or ten hour of trial time, is due fourteen days prior to the scheduled trial date.

Please contact me before requesting a court appointment.



CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

This certifies that

KARAN BERGSTROM

attended the Title 26 Guardian ad Litem Recertification Training Online via Zoom
on April 24, 2024.

This course has been approved for 3.5 hours of Law & Legal credits, and 2.5 hours of Other
(Nexus Subject) by the WSBA.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joanne E. Sprague".

Joanne E. Sprague
Executive Director
Kitsap Legal Services

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer Forbes".

Hon. Jennifer Forbes
Presiding Judge
Kitsap County Superior Court

THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
FOR KITSAP COUNTY

614 DIVISION STREET, MS-24
PORT ORCHARD, WASHINGTON 98366
(360) 337-7140

TINA ROBINSON, JUDGE
DEPARTMENT NO. 1
MICHELLE ADAMS, JUDGE
DEPARTMENT NO. 2
MELISSA A. HEMSTREET, JUDGE
DEPARTMENT NO. 3
WILLIAM C. HOUSER, JUDGE
DEPARTMENT NO. 4
JEFFREY P. BASSETT, JUDGE
DEPARTMENT NO. 5
KEVIN D. HULL, JUDGE
DEPARTMENT NO. 6

JENNIFER A. FORBES, JUDGE
DEPARTMENT NO. 7
CADINE FERGUSON-BROWN, JUDGE
DEPARTMENT NO. 8

MATTHEW L. CLUCAS
COURT COMMISSIONER
LYNN K. FLEISCHBEIN
COURT COMMISSIONER
FRANK A. MAIOCCO, JR.
COURT ADMINISTRATOR

June 25, 2024

Ms. Karan Bergstrom
PO Box 68
Port Orchard, WA 98366

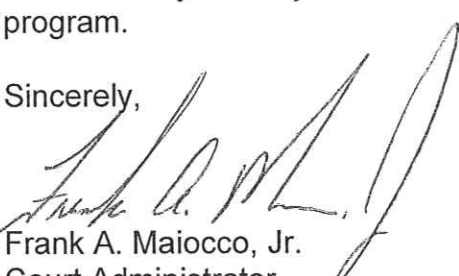
Re: Kitsap County Superior Court Title 26 Guardian ad Litem Registry, 2024-2025

Dear Ms. Bergstrom:

The Kitsap County Superior Court Guardian ad Litem Committee has received and reviewed your application for the Title 26 Guardian ad Litem registry. We are pleased to include you on the 2023 - 2024 Registry, effective July 1, 2024.

Thank you for your interest and participation in Kitsap County's Guardian ad Litem program.

Sincerely,



Frank A. Maiocco, Jr.
Court Administrator
Kitsap County Superior Court