

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

Name: Boni Cherelle

Business Name or Firm: Boni Cherelle

Business Address: 2916 NW Bucklin Hill Rd #475

City and State: Seattle, WA Zip Code: 98383

Business Phone: (360) 930-4145 Fax: (866) 696-5292

Email Address: bcherelle@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.

25 years - Attorney in Colorado & Wyoming. Colorado: 100+ appointments as Denver Juvenile Court GAL and Child & (Domestic Relations) Family Investigator. Washington State Appointments: 21- Title 26 GAL (Kitsap); 16 - GAL in Family Court (Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe); 9 - Title 26 GAL (Snohomish); 4 - Title 26 GAL (Jefferson); 1 Clallam County Child Support Title 11 Minor Guardianships - 4 GAL & 3 Court Visitor

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.

Title 11 Minor Guardianship Training offered in 2021 and Review of Title 11 Handbook for Guardians ad Litem

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.
- ☐ 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.
- ☒ 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 28th day of May, 2024, at Kingston, Washington.


SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

PRINT NAME: Boni Cherelle

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**

Boni Cherelle, J.D.

bcherelle@yahoo.com

360-930-4145 Direct • 1-866-696-5292 Fax – Toll-free • 2916 NW Bucklin Hill Rd #475, Silverdale, WA 98383

Bar and Court Admissions

Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribal Court	Admitted 03/18/2015
Suquamish Tribal Court	Admitted 10/29/2014
Colorado State Bar	Admitted 10/13/1998
Wyoming State Bar	Admitted 08/31/1989
U.S. District Court for the District of Wyoming	Admitted 1989
U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Colorado	Admitted 2003

Experience

Mentor Mediator – Dispute Resolution Center of Kitsap County	2019 - present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assist mediator interns with developing 40-hour basic mediation skills	
Contract Trainer – King County Dispute Resolution Center, Seattle, WA	2018 - 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Conflict resolution training for 40-hour Basic Mediation Training & Cohort Groups	
Coach – Dispute Resolution Center of Kitsap County, Silverdale, WA	2018 - present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Coach training participants in mediation skills during practice sessions	
Child Advocate Program Manager and Staff Guardian ad Litem	2017 – present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribal Court	
Civil Advice Clinic - Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe	01/2015 – 07/2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide civil advice and assistance for tribal community members at a monthly clinic	
Mediator - Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe	11/2015 – present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide mediation services for Tribal Court Services	
Guardian Ad Litem – Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Child in Need of Care/Guardianship Appointment	
	04/2016
Conduct home studies and report to the Tribal Community Court	
Social Security Disability Attorney	11/2014 – 2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assist clients with initial social security disability claims from initial application through the administrative appeals process	
Guardian Ad Litem – Washington Superior Courts	Kitsap 07/2012 – Present
Title 26 RCW Registries	Snohomish 08/2014 – Present
	Jefferson 05/2015 - 2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Investigation/child advocacy/court report writing in parenting plans, parentage, and relocation cases (completed cases in Kitsap and Clallam Counties) in accordance with Washington State statutory requirements	
Guardian Ad Litem – WA Dept of Social and Human Services 2013 - present	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Contract to provide investigation and report services in parentage cases in Washington Superior Courts as appointed	
Certified Mediator Practitioner	2012 - Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mediator: Conflict resolution services to help individuals use self-determination to: work through divorce, division of assets, parenting plan development and modifications	
Attorney	2002 – 2012
Boni Cherelle, LLC	Aurora, CO
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Law practice with emphasis in child welfare, domestic relations, employment lawGuardian <i>ad litem</i>, Denver Juvenile Court (dependency and neglect, delinquency)Child and Family Investigator, Domestic Relations, Denver District CourtCurrently maintains active license	

Faculty	2002 – 2014
University of Phoenix	Online Campus, AZ
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certified Advanced Facilitator of Undergraduate & Graduate School of Business courses (including Contemporary Business Law, Employment Law, Law and Public Administration Law with administrative law components in the courses) and School of Humanities Associate Program courses and Orientation Courses; experienced online and face-to-face instructor 	
Assoc. Director, Equal Opportunity/Employment Relations	1998-2003
Metropolitan State College (Metro State)	Denver, CO
Staff Attorney	1989-1998
University of Wyoming	Laramie, WY
Contract EEOC Investigator	1995 - 1997
Grant Communications	Del Mar, CA

Education & Certifications

Juris Doctorate - Arizona State University School of Law, Tempe, AZ
Bachelor of Arts, Education - Washington State University, Pullman, WA
Washington Mediation Association Certification
Dispute Resolution Center of Kitsap County Certification

Training/Professional Development

Kitsap Legal Services (yearly certification)	2013-2024
Title 26 Guardian ad Litem Recertification Training	

Professional Presentations

"Child Advocacy for Mediators" Silverdale, WA – 2014, 2023
"Domestic Violence Awareness Training" Presenter, Dispute Resolution Center of Kitsap County – Silverdale, WA 2023
"Domestic Violence Awareness Training" Panel Member for Dispute Resolution Center of Kitsap County – Silverdale, WA 2012

Professional Organizations

Association for Family and Conciliation Courts	2018 - present
Aurora Bar Association	2001 – present
Colorado Bar Association	2002- present
Sam Cary Bar Association	2002 - present
Washington Mediation Association	2013 - present
Wyoming Bar Association	1989 - present

Community Service

Dispute Resolution Center of King County – Volunteer Mentor Mediator	2016 - present
Kitsap Legal Services Volunteer	2013 – 2018
Divorce Workshops and Supplemental Security Income Advice Clinics	
Dispute Resolution Center of Kitsap County – Board Vice President	2015 - 2016
Dispute Resolution Center of Kitsap County – Board Member	2013 – 2016
Chair – 25 th Anniversary (2015) Committee	
Dispute Resolution Center of Kitsap County – Volunteer Mediator	2012 – present
Domestic Violence Court Outreach for DRC	

Metro Volunteer Lawyers – Pro bono attorney	2003 – 2011
University of Denver, College of Law Negotiations Competition Judge	2005 - 2009
Rocky Mountain Children’s Law Center Volunteer Guardian <i>ad litem</i> in protection order cases	2005 - 2007
Denver County Court Small Claims Workshop Volunteer Presenter	2003-2005
KUSA- Law Line 9 , staff phone lines and provide legal advice to community callers, Denver, CO	2003
Center for Women’s Employment and Education , Denver, CO Board Member	2002 – 2004
Stanley British Primary School Room Parent, Denver, CO	2002 – 2003
Arapaho Advocates for Children CASA, Aurora, CO	1999 – 2002
Casey Family Program Foster Parent, Wyoming	1994 – 1998

Boni Cherelle, J.D.
bcherelle@yahoo.com

Title 26 Family Law Guardian Ad Litem
2916 NW Bucklin Hill Road #475
Silverdale, WA 98383
360-930-4145

Fee Schedule for Title 26 GAL

Fees: \$180.00 per hour (all time including travel time, depositions, hearings, and trial days)

Business Expenses: Billed at cost against deposit (Fees for records, postage, WATCH reports, etc.)

Required Deposit: \$3,500.00* deposit payable before work commences – money orders, checks, bank checks, or cash are accepted

GAL Files: 10 days-notice and advance costs required for discovery requests. The file will be made available electronically. If you prefer a hard copy, please note that this may incur additional costs and time. If a hard copy is to be mailed, depending on the number of hard copies, advance costs maybe 3-5 hours of time at 60.00/hr., depending on file sizes and 25¢ per copy/scan with balance billing.

*Order appointing GAL should authorize up to 2x retainer (\$7,000.00) without further court order.

PLEASE CONTACT FOR AVAILABILITY BEFORE APPOINTMENT

Boni Cherelle, J.D.
Guardian ad litem and Certified Mediator
bcherelle@yahoo.com

May 8, 2024

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 prior to completion of the Guardian ad Litem's duties.

2 GAL Removal Motions - Denied

03/25/2017 – Kitsap Superior Court Case #15-3-01086-2 – Removal Request by Petitioner denied by Judge Bassett

01/19/2018 – Kitsap Superior Court Case #15-3-01086-2 – Removal Request by Petitioner based on GAL named in Kitsap Superior Court Case #17-2-02160-18 denied by Judge Houser

12/19/2017 Kitsap Superior Court Civil Complaint 17-2-02160-18

Amended Judgment entered 08/07/2020 - No findings entered against Boni Cherelle as to any tortious conduct in the matter.

Boni Cherelle operates her guardian ad litem business as a sole proprietor, Boni Cherelle.


Boni Cherelle

2916 NW Bucklin Hill Rd #475
Silverdale, WA 98383
360-930-4145
Fax 866-696-5292



CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

This certifies that

BONI CHERELLE

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.

Joanne E. Sprague

Joanne E. Sprague
Executive Director
Kitsap Legal Services

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. Boni Cherelle
2916 NW Bucklin Hill Road #475
Silverdale, WA 98383

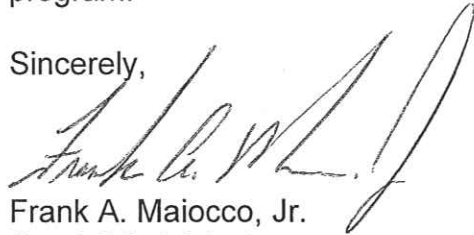
Re: Kitsap County Superior Court Title 26 Guardian ad Litem Registry, 2024-2025

Dear Ms. Cherelle:

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