

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

Name: Sonya Miles

Business Name or Firm: NA

Business Address: NA

City and State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Business Phone: (360) 990-8677 Fax: (_____) _____

Email Address: Milessp@gmail.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.

I am unsure of the exact number however; I have a significant number of years either as a GAL or training and reviewing the work of GALS. Investigations in general I can express that I have over 30 years of experience based on the career path I have had up to retirement. I have worked investigating youth up to and including senior citizens, different cultures, different economic situations, different races, different languages, and even different levels of freedom in/out of mainstream society. I have been assigned as GAL on a significant number of cases involving youth with autism disorders and many parenting investigations involving domestic violence, substance use disorder, etc. When working with Adult Protective Services in Washington State, I evaluated the needs and mental status of people with developmental disabilities and people over 55.

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.

See CV

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 22 day of June 2026, at Port Orchard, Washington.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

PRINT NAME: Sonya Miles

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**

Education

Bachelor's degree in criminal science

Completed most of the Limited Legal License Technician courses before it was sunset

Training obtained that assists with conducting fair and impartial investigations

- Washington State Suicide Prevention/Intervention Trainer
- Washington State Criminal Justice Academy
- Senior Management Training through the Washington State Criminal Justice Commission
- Washington State Labor Laws
- Trauma Informed Decision Making
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Trained
- Crisis intervention
- Motivational interviewing
- Cycles of Aging
- Signs of Age-Related Decline
- Signs of Child or Adult Abuse
- Mediation

Professional Boards/Volunteer Work

Adult Protective- IRT (Internal Review Team)- This team meets weekly to review all findings from investigators. This team is composed of a Program Manager and APS attorney. The investigator and their supervisor would present the case. In consultation with the attorney, we would either direct more investigation to solidify the findings, or indicate there was not enough evidence to support the findings and direct them to close the case with the appropriate finding. All findings in the region were presented before this team.

Adult Protective Services (APS) Consultation of Services Board- in Clark County, Lewis County, Grays Harbor County, Clallam County, Kitsap County, and briefly in Pierce County. This board was run by the Program Manager of each location and included law enforcement, Fire/Paramedics, Mental Health professionals, Substance Use professionals and many other service providers to discuss very difficult cases. When coverage was needed, I would float throughout the region to cover until another Program Manager could

be hired and trained. These cases complexity involved abuse, serious concern of decline, hoarding, domestic violence, and many other family dynamics related to an aging adult over 50 or with a developmental disability. Some examples of cases: Aging adult that was suicidal and had access to a weapon, a developmentally disabled person being locked in a basement room lacking basic nutrition and medical care, an aging person decompensating and a spouse or family member is refusing to allow care to them, a developmentally disabled adult who had his adult caretaker deceased but refused to allow APS in the home. APS Investigators are often greeted by distrust, fear, and hate for government services which caused significant danger to our investigators and paramedics without law enforcement involvement. Meeting prior to sending a sole investigator out assisted in bringing the case to closure without harm to anyone.

Kitsap County Human Right's Commission- This board operates to advise the county government and the community on issues of discrimination, violence, and harassment based on race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or economic status. Another main component is to educate the community by organizing educational events and promoting equitable treatment of all people.

Mason County Legal Clinic- This clinic offers low-income people the opportunity to consult with an attorney who volunteers time to the community. I would meet with the individual and obtain information about the reason they came and connect them with the attorney that had the expertise in that area of the law. During this time, I had entered obtaining my LLLT (Limited Legal License Technician), however the program was sunset before I finished it.

Care Kitchen-Port Orchard-For the past 3 years I have volunteered at the Port Orchard Food Kitchen on Wednesday evenings. This kitchen is one of many throughout Kitsap County that feed people who are in need or low on food at home.

Related Employment History and approximate timeframe

10 years-Supervisor/Manager of a Juvenile Detention Center, it was my responsibility to ensure all youth admitted to and detained within physical and psychological needs were met. I coordinated intake for legal criteria to hold, medical screenings to ensure it was safe to hold, coordinated mental health and substance use professionals to serve them while in custody, ensured the youth were receiving proper nutrition, education and physical exercise and engagement activities. I problem solved when visitation with family did not go well and mediated visits to help with proper and effective communication styles.

13 years-Deputy Administrator of Probation/GAL, I managed (5) Probation Officers, (4) GAL's, and (1) CHINS/YAR Probation Officer, Managed a Community Accountability Board (CAB) and Truancy Board, and trained School Districts across the State on the operation of Truancy Boards. For the CHINS/YAR, I met with each family to deescalate outbursts, guide parents to appropriate discipline/sanction for unacceptable behaviors from their youth, worked with youth on obtaining skills to deescalate themselves when problems occurred to prevent outbursts that could cause them to become involved in the criminal justice side of the court. It was my responsibility to read every dependency petition from DSHS to ensure accuracy and compliance with the RCW before it was filed with the court. As part of my job as a Probation Manager, I met with families to create positive behavior plans for both the parent and child of the CHINS/YAR petition. I would often be called into periods of family crisis and would facilitate a meeting with the juvenile and their family to prevent further escalation, preventing heavier sanctions for the youth. One of the primary duties I had in this position was to be the GAL of the Family Recovery Court cases.

4 years-Private Investigations- I was hired, primarily by attorneys, that were involved in family law proceedings. I did many custody investigations and investigations on parenting styles and/or accusations. In addition, I had several cases with attorney Janette Booth from Mason County, WA., on criminal investigations, custodial abuse/interference allegations and other types of criminal cases. I continued my investigation business concurrently with my position with Adult Protective Services, however, I could not work on cases involving elderly or vulnerable adults.

3 years-Washington State Department of Adult Protective Services-In this position I started as an investigator for the first year and then promoted to a Program Manager. I conducted investigations on elder/vulnerable person abuse. Most of these investigations called for a significant amount of work with the entire family unit. Promoting to a Program Manager allowed me to do more of the training of the investigators. I supervised the SHPC Team, which was the team that provided training to all investigators in Washington State. This training involved investigating as it related to the law of elder/vulnerable adult abuse, intervention, protection, mediations, and in the right to refuse services if the person did not have any mental inefficiencies that limited decision-making. These are the areas where the state had most issues with the investigations and needed more focused training to prevent or minimize litigation. In addition, we provided training on safety, deescalation tactics, and crucial conversations.

Sonya Miles
milessp@gmail.com/360-990-8677

5 years-Deputy Director Kitsap County Department of Human Services- In this position the focus is on providing essential social, health, and community support services to vulnerable residents: mainly providing funding, prevention, and pathways to a better life. This position touches on all aspects of living healthy lives; housing, mental health, substance use treatment/services, medical, youth prevention, developmental disability services, veteran's services and assistance, pretrial services, etc. I oversee 7 divisions: Youth Prevention, Developmental Disabilities, Mental Health Chemical Dependency Therapeutic court tax, Community Investments in Affordable Housing, Kitsap Recovery Center for substance abuse treatment, Veteran's Assistance Fund, and Pretrial Services. Connecting community and people to services is the goal and ensuring fair and equitable access.



Certificate of Attendance



_____ This certifies that _____

SONYA MILES

attended the Washington State Title 26
Guardian ad Litem Certification Training held
via Zoom on June 5, 6, 12 and 13, 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MBR", written over a horizontal line.

Mindy Belhiba-Rovira
Executive Director
Kitsap Legal Aid Services

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly Warner-King", written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Warner-King, JD
Administrative Office
of the Courts

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

June 29, 2026

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

Ms. Sonya Miles
Milessp@gmail.com

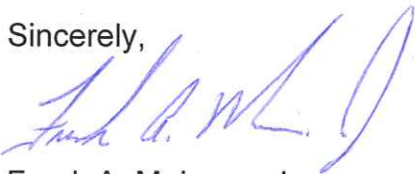
Re: Kitsap County Superior Court Title 26 Guardian ad Litem Registry, 2026-2027

Dear Ms. Miles:

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 2026 - 2027 Registry, effective July 1, 2026.

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