IN RE	§ IN THE COUNTY COURT &
	§ COUNTY COURTS AT LAW

S FIRE AND REDURED

GUARDIANSHIP

§ OF LUBBOCK COUNTY, TEXAS

## STANDING ORDER REGARDING COURT INVESTIGATOR APPOINTED IN GUARDIANSHIP PROCEEDINGS

TOURTY CLERK LUBBOOK COUNTY, TEXAS

No party to this lawsuit has requested this order. Rather, this order is a standing order of the County Court and County Courts at Law of Lubbock County that apply in every guardianship proceeding filed in Lubbock County. The County Court and County Courts at Law have adopted this order because wards should be protected and their property preserved while the lawsuit is pending before the Court. Therefore, it is ORDERED:

- 1. **NO DISRUPTION OF WARD.** All parties are ORDERED to refrain from doing the following acts concerning any wards who are subjects of this case:
  - 1.1 Removing the ward(s) from the State of Texas, acting directly or in concert with others, without the written agreement of all parties or an order of this Court.
  - 1.2 Disrupting or withdrawing the ward(s) from school, day-care facility, or any other facility where the ward(s) are presently enrolled, without the written agreement of all parties or an order of this Court.
  - 1.3 Hiding or secreting the ward(s) from the other parties or changing the ward's current place of abode, without the written agreement of all parties or an Order of this Court.
  - 1.4 Disturbing the peace of the ward(s).
- 2. **CONDUCT OF THE PARTIES DURING THE CASE.** All parties are ORDERED to refrain from doing the following acts:
  - 2.1 Using vulgar, profane, obscene, or indecent language, in an offensive manner, to communicate with the other parties, whether in person, by telephone or in writing.
  - 2.2 Threatening the other parties in person, by telephone, or in writing to take unlawful action against any person.
  - 2.3 Placing one or more telephone calls, at an unreasonable hour, in an offensive or repetitious manner, without a legitimate purpose of communication, or anonymously.
  - 2.4 Opening or diverting mail addressed to the other parties.
- 3. **PRESERVATION OF PROPERTY AND USE OF FUNDS DURING GUARDIANSHIP CASE.** All parties are ORDERED to refrain from doing the following acts:
  - 3.1 Destroying, removing, concealing, encumbering, transferring, or otherwise harming or reducing the value of the property of the ward(s).

- 3.2 Misrepresenting or refusing to disclose to the other parties or to the Court, on proper request, the existence, amount, or location of any property of the ward(s).
- 3.3 Damaging or destroying the tangible property of the ward(s), including any document that represents or embodies anything of value.
- 3.4 Tampering with the tangible property of the ward(s), including any document that represents or embodies anything of value, and causing pecuniary loss to the ward(s).
- 3.5 Selling, transferring, assigning, mortgaging, encumbering, or in any other manner, alienating any of the property of the ward(s).
- 3.6 Incurring any indebtedness, other than legal expenses in connection with this suit, except as specifically authorized by this order.
- 3.7 Making withdrawals from any checking or savings account owned by the ward(s) in any financial institution for any purpose except, as authorized by this order.
- 3.8 Spending any sum of the ward's cash in any party's possession or subject to any party's control for any purpose, except as specifically authorized by this order.
- 3.9 Withdrawing or borrowing in any manner for any purpose from the ward's retirement, profit-sharing, pension, death, or other employee benefit plan or employee savings plan or from any individual retirement account or Keogh account, except as specifically authorized by this Order.
- 3.10 Signing or endorsing the ward's name on any negotiable instrument, check, or draft, such as tax refunds, insurance payments, and dividends, or attempting to negotiate any negotiable instrument.
- 3.11 Taking any action to terminate or limit credit or change cards in the name of the ward(s).
- 3.12 Entering, operating, or exercising control over the ward's motor vehicle.
- 3.13 Discontinuing or reducing the withholding for federal income taxes on wages or salary while this suit is pending.
- 3.14 Terminating, or in any manner affecting, the service of water, electricity, gas, telephone, cable television, or other contractual services, such as security, pest control, landscaping, or yard maintenance at the ward's residence or in any manner attempting to withdraw any deposits for service in connection with such services.
- 4. **PERSONAL AND BUSINESS RECORDS IN GUARDIANSHIP CASES.** All parties are ORDERED to refrain from doing the following acts:
  - 4.1 Concealing or destroying any family records, property records, financial records, business records or any records of income, debts, or other obligations.
  - 4.2 Falsifying any writing or record relating to the property of the ward.
  - 4.3 "Records" include e-mail or other digital or electronic data, whether stored on a computer hard drive, diskette or other electronic storage device.
- 5. **INSURANCE IN GUARDIANSHIP CASES.** All parties are ORDERED to refrain from doing the following acts:

- 5.1 Withdrawing or borrowing in any manner all or any part of the cash surrender value of life insurance policies on the life of the ward, except as specifically authorized by this order.
- 5.2 Changing or in any manner altering, the beneficiary designation on any life insurance on the life of the ward(s) or the ward's children.
- 5.3 Canceling, altering, or in any manner affecting any casualty, automobile, or health insurance policies insuring the ward's property or persons including the ward's minor children.
- 6. <u>EFFECT OF OTHER COURT ORDERS.</u> If any part of this order is different from any part of a Protective Order that has already been entered or is later entered, the Protective Order provisions prevail. Any part of this order not changed by some later order remains in full force and effect until the Court signs an Order for Guardianship.

FURTHERMORE, PURSUANT TO §1102.001 OF THE TEXAS ESTATES CODE, THE COURT FINDS IT PROPER TO APPOINT A COURT INVESTIGATOR IN EVERY GUARDIANSHIP CASE PENDING IN LUBBOCK COUNTY. THEREFORE, WITHOUT FURTHER ORDER OF THE COURT, THE COURT INVESTIGATOR IS APPOINTED IN ALL PENDING GUARDIANSHIPS IN LUBBOCK COUNTY.

THIS STANDING ORDER REGARDING WARD(S), PROPERTY, AND CONDUCT OF THE PARTIES SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON MARCH 6, 2020.

JUDGE MARK HOCKER

COUNTY COURT AT LAW #1

JUDGE DRUE FARMER

COUNTY COURT AT LAW #2

JUDGE ANN-MARIE CARRUTH

COUNTY COURT AT LAW #3

JUDGE CURTIS PARRISH

**COUNTY JUDGE**