

**BACKGROUND AND STATEMENT OF
QUALIFICATIONS AS REQUIRED BY RCW 11.130.155
COVER PAGE
INFORMATION**

Business Name/Firm: T. Symons Services

Phone Number: (509) 845-4533

Mailing Address: 8350 W. Grandridge Blvd., Suite 200,
Kennewick, WA 99336

Registry Email: TaraSymonsGAL@gmail.com

Title 11 GAL/COURT VISITOR
Background and Statement of Qualifications as required by RCW
11.130.155

****This will be posted on the Benton & Franklin Counties Superior Court Website for public viewing****

I, Tara Symons, MSW, MBA, LICSW, have the following background, knowledge, training, and experience to be on the:

- ☐ **Title 11 Adult Guardianship Court Visitor Registry**
- ☒ **Title 11 Minor Guardianship/Conservatorship Court Visitor Registry**
- ☐ **Title 11 Minor Guardianship/Conservatorship GAL Registry:**

A. My highest level of formal education: Master of Social Work; Master of Business Admin.

B. Training related to Court Visitor and/or Guardian ad Litem's duties:

Title 11 CV/GAL
Title 13 CASA/GAL
Title 26 GAL

C. Number of years' experience as a Guardian ad Litem and/or Court Visitor: 13

D. Number of appointments as a Guardian ad Litem and/or Court Visitor [as of today's date] and the county or counties of appointment: (specify as to what role served)

a) Number of appointments: Title 11: 48 MG GAL, 66 MG CV, 21 Adult CV

b) Counties appointed in: Benton, Franklin, Kittitas, Klickitat, Skamania,
Spokane, Walla Walla, Yakima

E. Criminal history [as defined in RCW 9.94.A.030]:

☒ I do NOT have a criminal history as defined in RCW 9.94.A.030.

☐ I do have a criminal history as defined in RCW 9.94.A.030. [Please explain each instance on a page and attach hereto].

F. I have knowledge, training, and experience in the following areas:

[Check all that apply and provide detailed descriptions]

☐ Impaired elderly: See attachment

☒ Persons with physical disabilities: See attachment

☒ Persons with mental illness: See attachment

☒ Persons with developmental disabilities: See attachment

☒ Other areas relevant to the needs of persons subject to guardianship or conservatorship. See attachment

☐ Legal procedures involving guardianships: See attachment

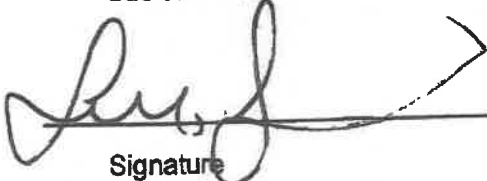
☐ Provisions of RCW Chapter 11.130

G. I have been previously removed from a Guardian ad Litem registry or Court Visitor Registry pursuant to a grievance action:

☐ No

☐ Yes [Please explain each instance on a page and attach hereto. Include the name of the county, court, and cause number(s).]

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.


Signature

Tara Symons

04/23/2026

Printed Name & Date

Summary (statement) of knowledge/training/experience (2025-2026)

- (i) **The needs of impaired elderly people:**
 - Gerontology: Family and Social Relationships, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
- (ii) **Physical disabilities:**
 - Shaken Baby Syndrome, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
- (iii) **Mental illness:**
 - Crisis Intervention Specialist II certification, 16 CE hours, 2025
 - Schizophrenia: Impact on the Family, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
 - Chicken or the Egg: The Cannabis and Psychosis Debate, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
 - The American Case Management Association: Behavioral Health, 1.5 CE hours, 2025
 - Relational Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) Therapy for the Treatment of Complex Trauma, 1.5 CE hours, 2025
 - Recognizing and Diagnosing Adults on the Autism Spectrum, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
 - Hoarding: Insights and Innovations for Social Workers, 1.5 CE hours, 2025
 - Care of Patients at Risk for Suicide, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
 - Histrionic Personality Disorder, 1.25 CE hours, 2025
 - Implementing Trauma-Informed Sensitive Practice 1.0, 2025
 - Supporting the Mental Health of DACA recipients, 2.0, 2025
 - Ethical Social Work with Suicidal People, 1.5 hours ethics, 2025
- (iv) **Developmental disabilities:**
 - Children with Developmental Disabilities, 1.0 CE, 2025
 - Caring for the Developmentally Disabled Adult, 1.5 CE hours, 2025
- (v) **Substance use disorder:**
 - Dose of Justice: Enhancing Naloxone Distribution and Education, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
 - Pain Management – Differentiating Physiological Dependence and SUD, 1.5, 2025
 - Intersections Between Trauma and Addiction, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
- (vi) **Developmental needs and levels of children:**
 - Trauma-Responsive Grief Support for Youth and Families Impacted by Homicide Deaths, 3.5 CE hours, 2026
 - Sexualized Behaviors in Children, 1.25 CE hours, 2025
 - Reactive Attachment Disorder, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
 - Child Maltreatment: Neglect, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
 - Complex Trauma in Children and Adolescents, 1.5 CE hours, 2025
 - Dating Violence in Adolescence, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
 - Pediatric Care: Crisis Intervention, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
 - Adoption, an Overview, 1.0 CE hours, 2025

- The Harms of Corporal Punishment, 1.5 CE hours, 2025
- What Works for Teens – Evidence Based Practice for Clinicians, 1.0 CE hours, 2025

(vii) Other:

- Everything Hurts: How Trauma Became the Theory of Everything, 1 CE hr, 2026
- Walla Walla County GAL refresher training, 6 hours, 2026
- Ethics, 3.0 CE hours, 2026
- Hispanic Cultures, 1.5 CE hours, 2025
- Guiding Clients through Difficult Conversations in Couples Therapy, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
- Emotional Intelligence in Social Work: Strengthening Professional Practice, 1.5 CE hours, 2025
- Implicit Bias Training for Caregivers, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
- The Art of Interviewing, 1.0 CE hours, 2025
- Case Management of Homeless Persons, .5 CE hours, 2025
- Bereavement Support for the Loss of a Child, 1.25 CE hours, 2025
- Complex Ethics Cases and Conceptually Based Decision-Making Protocols, 3.0 CE hours Ethics, 2025
- Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention for Social Workers 1.0 hr, 2025
- Understanding the Role of the Social Worker in Family Court, 2.0 CE hours, 2025
- Revisions to the NASW Code of Ethics – Self-Care and Cultural Comp., 1.5 Ethics, 2025
- Challenges and Complexities of Cultural Competency in Social Work Practice, 1.0, 2025
- Tools for Social Workers to Prevent Gun Violence, 1.0 CE hours, 2025