



## Minnesota Judicial Branch Policy

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<b>Policy Source:</b>	Minnesota Judicial Council
<b>Policy Number:</b>	603
<b>Category:</b>	Statewide Court Programs
<b>Title:</b>	Appointment of “Financial Interest” Guardians Ad Litem
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### Appointment of “Financial Interest” Guardians Ad Litem

#### **I. POLICY STATEMENT**

It is the policy of the Judicial Branch to ensure that the appointments of guardians ad litem (GALs) in family court and juvenile court matters are consistent with Minnesota’s statutes and the Rules of GAL Procedure for Juvenile and Family Court Matters. To that end:

- A. Courts shall not appoint non-program GALs to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children in juvenile court proceedings and family court (permissive and mandatory) proceedings.
- B. Courts may appoint non-program, privately paid GALs to advocate for the financial interests of children in family court (permissive and mandatory) proceedings.
- C. Program GALs may not be appointed to serve as parenting time expeditors, custody evaluators, etc.

#### **II. IMPLEMENTATION AUTHORITY**

Implementation of this policy shall be shared between the State Court Administrator and the chief judges of the respective judicial districts.

#### **III. EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS**

Not applicable.