

FILED
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

MAR 03 2020

SUPERIOR COURT CLERK

EXP07 EXP07

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR KING COUNTY

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:

NO. 18-3-05993-7 SEA

SONYA DELANCE,

Petitioner,

**ORDER APPOINTING
GUARDIAN AD LITEM FOR A
CHILD
(ORAPGL)**

and

MICHAEL DELANCE,

Respondent.

ORDER APPOINTING GUARDIAN AD LITEM FOR A CHILD

1. A motion to appoint a Guardian ad Litem (GAL) for the children listed below was made by the Petitioner:

Child's name	Age
1. Presley J. DeLance	10
2. Ella J. DeLance	8

2. The court finds it is in the best interest of the children listed in 1 to appoint a Guardian ad Litem. The court has authority to make this appointment under:
 divorce (dissolution) law, Ch. 26.09 RCW.

The court orders:

3. William Singer is appointed Guardian ad Litem (GAL) for the children listed in 1 above. The GAL must always act in the children's best interests.

4. GAL's Rights

All parties must serve the Guardian ad Litem (GAL) with:

- Notice of any court hearing or proposed agreement involving these children, and

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- Copies of all documents they file in this case.

The court clerk must give the GAL free, certified copies of this *Order*, upon request.

5. GAL's Duties

The Guardian ad Litem's (GAL's) duties include:

- Going to all court hearings and pretrial conferences for this case that are related to the children, unless the court says otherwise, and
- Helping the parties agree on a parenting plan or other issues in this case related to the children.

The GAL is ordered to investigate and file a report only on the issues checked below, unless the court approves investigation into other issues:

- All issues related to making a parenting plan for these children
- Mental health issues of Respondent.
- Substance abuse of Respondent.
- Any other issues discovered that could affect the **safety** of the children.

6. GAL's Report

The Guardian ad Litem's (GAL's) report must include:

- Facts about the issues listed in 5 above.
- The children's preferences for the parenting plan (if they stated any),
- Any facts about whether the children stated their preferences voluntarily, and
- Any facts about the children's level of understanding.

The report may include recommendations based on the investigation.

Deadline! Unless the court extends the deadline, the report must be filed and served on all parties by *(date)* May 18, 2020, which is at least 60 days before the trial.

The parties (or their lawyers, if any) have the right to inspect and copy the GAL's file of data gathered during the investigation, including the names and addresses of everyone the GAL consulted. *Exception:* information in the GAL's file that is confidential by law or sealed by a court shall **not** be shared with the parties or their lawyers.

7. Access to the children and information

The Guardian ad Litem (GAL) is allowed reasonable access to the children, and to all records and people with information that affects the children, including:

- Child care providers

- 1 ▪ Physical and mental health care providers
- 2 ▪ Schools and other educational institutions
- 3 ▪ Law enforcement agencies, Child Protective Services, and the Department of Social and
- 4 Health Services (or equivalent agencies if outside Washington)

5 *Note: agencies may withhold or black out legally protected parts of requested information.*

6 **8. Release of information**

7 The signatures of parties or children age 12 or older below mean they give permission to the

8 agencies and professionals listed in 7 above to share information about themselves and their

 children with the GAL.

9 **9. Confidentiality**

10 The Guardian ad Litem (GAL) will:

- 11 ▪ Have access to all Superior Court and Juvenile Court files related to his/her duties,
- 12 including sealed and confidential documents. *Exception:* The GAL will not have access
- 13 to information sealed under RCW 13.50.050(7);
- 14 ▪ Keep confidential any sealed and confidential information (unless his or her duties as
- 15 GAL require otherwise);
- 16 ▪ Tell the court if his/her report includes any sealed or confidential information; and
- 17 ▪ File his or her report in two parts: one public and one sealed as required by GR 22.

18 Any party or the GAL may ask the court to make confidential any reports or documents placed

19 in the file, if there is a good reason to do so.

20 **10. GAL's Fees**

21 The Guardian ad Litem's (GAL's) hourly fee is \$ _____. The GAL may not charge more

22 than a total of \$_____ without court review and approval.

23 *The GAL's fees will be paid as follows (*check one*):

24 83.7% paid by Respondent, Michael DeLance.

25 16.3% paid by Petitioner, Sonya DeLance

26 * This proportional split is subject to reallocation by agreement or further court order.

Billing Process:

- The GAL must file an itemized statement of time and expenses with the court and provide a copy to the person/s or entity responsible for payment.

1 ▪ The GAL may file any request for payment with the court, along with an itemized
2 statement and a proposed order.

3 **11. Appointment Ends**

The GAL's appointment ends when the GAL is discharged by the court or earlier if:

4 the final *Parenting Plan* or *Residential Schedule* is signed by the court.

5 **12. Other orders (if any):**

HENRY H. JUDSON

MAR 03 2020

6 **Ordered.**

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8
9 *Date*

3/3/2020

Judge or Commissioner

COURT COMMISSIONER

10 **Petitioner and Respondent or their lawyers fill out below:**

11 This document *(check any that apply)*:

This document *(check any that apply)*:

- 12 is an agreement of the parties
13 is presented by me
14 may be signed by the court without
notice to me

- is an agreement of the parties
 is presented by me
 may be signed by the court without
notice to me

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16 *[Signature]*
Dimitra S. Scott, WSBA No. 34634
Attorney for Petitioner

17 *[Signature]*
Amanda Gamble, WSBA No. 52982
Attorney for Respondent

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19 *[Signature]*
Sonya DeLance, Petitioner

20 *[Signature]*
Michael DeLance, Respondent

21 **Guardian ad litem signs below to accept appointment:**





22 *GAL signs here*

Print name

Date

TITLE	DeLance GAL Order
FILE NAME	DeLance GAL Order.pdf
DOCUMENT ID	331d18bca99b52d13dc9ad22059d3bb9398143f2
AUDIT TRAIL DATE FORMAT	MM / DD / YYYY
STATUS	• Completed

Document History

 SENT	02 / 19 / 2020 00:57:12 UTC	Sent for signature to Michael DeLance (michael@thevalientegroup.com) from agamble.law@gmail.com IP: 50.210.55.22
 VIEWED	02 / 19 / 2020 00:57:59 UTC	Viewed by Michael DeLance (michael@thevalientegroup.com) IP: 76.91.25.152
 SIGNED	02 / 19 / 2020 01:22:09 UTC	Signed by Michael DeLance (michael@thevalientegroup.com) IP: 76.91.25.152
 COMPLETED	02 / 19 / 2020 01:22:09 UTC	The document has been completed.