

RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR PIERCE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
TITLE 26 PARENTING INVESTIGATOR/GUARDIAN AD
LITEM CERTIFIED REGISTRY

This application is for Guardians ad Litem currently serving on the Pierce County Superior Court Title 26 Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem Certified Registry.

THIS IS PUBLIC INFORMATION

This is my renewal application to serve as a Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem in Pierce County, State of Washington, as required under Title 26. I hereby certify under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that my renewal application is true and correct. Please check each box where contact information has changed since last year's application was submitted.

Date Signed: March 19, 2009 Signature: *Claudia Bassin*

WSBA # and Year Admitted: #28154 - Admitted 9/08/98

Printed Name: Claudia Bassin

Business Address: 5806 A - 119th Avenue SE

City: Bellevue State: WA Zip Code: 98006

E-Mail Address: claudia@bassinlaw.com

Business Telephone Number: 206-931-3075 FAX: 425-226-2739

Bilingual: Yes If so, in what language(s): Fluent/Italian, Conversant/Spanish

Please list all trainings attended during the past year: (include Date, Sponsor, and Topic)

<u>1/17/08</u>	<u>"Interviewing Children"</u>	<u>Pierce County Superior Court</u>
<u>2/21/08</u>	<u>"Family Law Roundtable"</u>	<u>Pierce County Superior Court</u>
<u>4/17/08</u>	<u>"Liability & Immunity for GALs"</u>	<u>Pierce County Superior Court</u>
<u>11/18/08</u>	<u>"Digital Evidence & Ethics"</u>	<u>ALI-ABA CLE</u>
<u>11/20/08</u>	<u>"Ethics of Client Selection"</u>	<u>ALI-ABA CLE</u>
<u>12/21/08</u>	<u>"Preventing Disciplinary Complaints"</u>	<u>ABA</u>

NOTE: Only this application may be utilized. Late applications shall not be accepted for any reason. All questions must be answered in the order in which they are given. Answers that only refer to a resume or vitae are not acceptable although a resume is required and you may attach supporting materials. Please return completed application, resume and any materials by March 20, 2009 4:30 PM to:

Pierce County Superior Court Administrator
Room 334, County City Building
930 Tacoma Ave South
Tacoma, WA 98402-2108

RECEIVED BY
09 MAR 20 AM 10:51
SUPERIOR COURT
PIERCE COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR

THIS PART OF THE APPLICATION IS PUBLIC INFORMATION

A. Please report the first year you served on the RCW 26.09 Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem Certified Registry in **Pierce County**. Please list any years where there was a break in service: **2006**

B. Number of appointments you have received as a Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem and all counties eligible for appointment during the last year, 1/1/08 to 12/31/08: **11**

C. Percentage of your total case load that RCW 26 Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem work represents overall: **100%**

D. Criminal history, as defined in RCW 9.94A.030: A current and completed Washington State Patrol Conviction Criminal History Record must be received by the Court. If not attached, the expected date the Court will have the record: **attached**

E. Have you ever been accused of, found guilty of, or been a victim of **either** domestic violence or an anti-harassment action? Yes No . If **yes**, please explain.

F. The number of times you have been removed for failure to adequately perform duties as Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem or for any other cause. For each removal, give a brief explanation, with the county, case name and cause number, and attach all relevant documents from the court file along with a copy of the court order. **N/A**

I also certify the following:

G. I am presently not serving, nor have I recently applied to serve, as a Judge or Commissioner pro tempore in Pierce County Superior Court. I understand that I am not permitted to serve in both capacities.

AGREE DISAGREE

H. I have no criminal history or license suspension or revocation.

AGREE X DISAGREE _____

I. I am not the subject of any pending investigation or action by a government agency, professional organization or one that would result in either a criminal conviction or a license revocation or suspension.

AGREE X DISAGREE _____

J. I have read and understand the applicability to me and agree to be bound and governed by the Pierce County Superior Court Administrative Policy #1 for the Title 26 Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem Certified Registry.

AGREE X DISAGREE _____

K. I have read, signed, returned, and understand the applicability to me of the Pierce County Superior Court Administrative Policy # 2 Title 26 Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem Code of Conduct and agree to be bound and governed by the Code of Conduct.

AGREE X DISAGREE _____

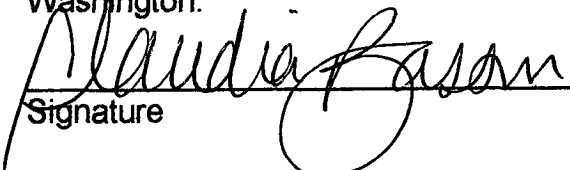
L. I have completed in full, signed and attached the confidential supplement to this renewal application.

AGREE _____ DISAGREE X

If you disagree for any answer (G-L), please explain in full:

As to L above, I have not provided confidential address information because I do not want this information inadvertently disseminated to the public.

I certify that I have thoroughly studied the provisions and requirements of Title 26 and Superior Court Guardian ad Litem Rules and believe I am fully qualified to be appointed as a Parenting Investigator/ Guardian ad Litem in Pierce County, Washington.

	March 19, 2009
Signature	Date of signing
Claudia Bassin	Bellevue, WA
Print Name	Place of signing

Please continue to the next page.

POLICY 2

**PIERCE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
RCW 26.09.220 AND RCW 26.12.175
PARENTING INVESTIGATOR/GUARDIAN AD LITEM CODE OF CONDUCT**

All Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem's shall fully comply with this Code of Conduct and the requirements of Superior Court GALR, effective 11/01:

1. The appointed Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem shall decline the appointment if they are not qualified, competent, or able to complete the matter in a timely manner.
2. The Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem shall maintain the ethical principles of their own profession in addition to compliance with this Code of Conduct.
3. The Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem shall promptly advise the court of any grounds for disqualification or unavailability to serve.
4. The Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem shall avoid self-dealing or association from which the Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem might directly or indirectly benefit, other than from compensation as a Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem.
5. The Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem shall not guarantee or create the impression that any portion of the investigation will remain confidential, and shall inform all witnesses that the information gathered by the Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem must be reported to the court.
6. All records, including contemporaneously maintained time and expense records, of the Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem shall promptly be made available to the parties and their attorneys for review upon request, without formal discovery request(s) being made. Copies of the records may be made by the parties and their attorneys under circumstances that assure that the file remains complete, organized and intact.
7. The Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem shall be available to testify if called by a party.
8. Once admitted to the RCW 26.09 Certified Registry, all Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem's shall fully comply with all continuing education requirements established under Pierce County Local Rules and GALR, as amended.

The undersigned acknowledges receipt of the foregoing, has read the same and GALR, and agrees to be governed by all.

3/19/09
Date

(Adopted 5/4/98; amended 5/6/02)


Signature

CLAUDIA BASSIN, ESQ.

5806 A – 119th Avenue SE
Suite 220
Bellevue, Washington 98006

Phone: 206.931.3075
Fax: 425.226.2739
claudia@bassinlaw.com

Experienced attorney with diverse background as an attorney, entrepreneur, and manager. Extensive litigation experience, effective communicator and public speaker, excellent management, leadership and motivational abilities, unparalleled organizational skills and attention to detail, advocate for children.

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Guardian Ad Litem Pierce County Superior Court, Tacoma, WA

June 2006 – Present

Training completed June 2006. "Job shadow" and mentoring requirements satisfied and officially on the Pierce County Guardian Ad Litem registry for appointment to perform the following functions:

- Act as representative for the best interests of the child or children at issue in Title 26 dissolution cases.
- Conduct thorough investigation related to the parenting, custody and visitation arrangements for the child or children, including, but not limited to, interviews with relevant parties, school, medical and governmental agencies and their representatives and the children at issue.
- Draft and file reports in support of the investigation and make recommendations to the court consistent with statutory requirements and provisions.
- Testify in court on behalf of the child/children at issue regarding the investigative findings and recommendations.

Deputy District Attorney III Los Angeles County District Attorney, Los Angeles, CA

July 1993 – June 1997

Senior trial deputy practicing civil litigation to establish paternity and obtain and enforce child support orders.

Extensive court appearances and hearings, research, drafting and arguing of motions and the prosecution of complex family law cases.

- Unprecedented promotion from Deputy District Attorney I to Deputy District Attorney III in two years.
- Supervision and training of lower level attorneys in the performance of their duties related to case management and trial preparation and the conducting of trials and hearings - supervised in excess of 25 hearings and trials per day.
- Created and implemented systems to streamline office and court trial operations – immediately increased child support prosecution productivity.
- Ongoing caseload of 8,000+ cases; appeared in court 3-4 days a week and conducted in excess of 5 hearings per day.

Associate Attorney Keesal, Young & Logan, Long Beach, CA

September 1991 – June 1993

Handled complex civil litigation cases from inception through trial commencement, attended and argued motions in state and federal court, conducted arbitration hearings and assisted in jury and bench trials primarily in the areas of securities, maritime and insurance defense litigation.

- Attended and participated in case management conferences, settlement conferences, ex parte hearings and trial calls.
- Drafted and argued motions, including motions for summary judgment, motions to compel, demurrers, motions to strike, motions in limine and post-trial motions; drafted discovery requests and responses.
- Conducted and defended depositions, retained and worked closely with expert witnesses and reported extensively to clients in both oral and written form.

- Carried out final trial preparation including drafting relevant motions, trial briefs and other trial documents, preparing exhibits, preparing trial witnesses and attending pretrial conferences.

Certified Law Clerk *Los Angeles County District Attorney, Los Angeles, CA*

January 1991 – May 1991

Conducted in excess of forty felony preliminary hearings in the area of criminal law.

- Reviewed and researched background and legal facts in support of charges.
- Prepared relevant legal memoranda, documentation and evidence to prepare cases for court.
- Interviewed civilian and law enforcement witnesses to prepare for court hearings.
- Called and questioned witnesses and defendants, introduced evidence and provided opening and closing legal arguments in support of the government's case against the defendant.

Law Clerk *Lillick & Charles, Long Beach, CA*

May 1989 – August 1989

Performed legal research and drafted pleadings and motions for federal and state courts.

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Director of Children's Ministries *City Calvary Chapel, Seattle, WA*

May 2005 – May 2006

Responsible for the children's religious education program of a medium sized non-denominational church; setting and monitoring goals and vision, coordinating, recruiting, training and motivating paid and volunteer personnel to support the program, developing policies and procedures, serving as member of church leadership.

- Personally asked by church leadership to take over struggling ministry during church transition from one to two services because of reputation as a leader, manager, and motivator.
- Transformed ministry – developed new ideas to engage children, instituted long term volunteer program, created marketing and recruiting plan, evaluated and selected new curriculum, developed and implemented safety and security procedures, established Advisory Board.

President, Founder *Riflessi, Inc., Seattle, WA*

September 1998 – December 2003

Developed business importing high-end Italian home ware and fine art products for retail sale. Grew national business from concept to full operational capability, including development and execution of business plan, securing funding, retail store design and location selection; communication and interface with foreign suppliers, management of staff, and development and implementation of marketing plan.

- Business recognized as top Seattle destination by national publications for its design and selection of product.
- Implemented aggressive cost controls and marketing plan resulting in profitability in second year of operation.
- Transitioned operation of store to full time staff while providing leadership to expand operations.

EDUCATION

Juris Doctor

LOYOLA LAW SCHOOL, Los Angeles, CA

Special Focus: Trial law and advocacy.

May 1991

Bachelor of Arts - Government

SMITH COLLEGE, Northampton, MA

Major: Government - Minor: Art History

May 1988

RECENT LEGAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Effective Writing Advocacy (Washington State Bar Association) – August 2006

Title 26 Guardian Ad Litem Training (Tacoma-Pierce County Bar Association) – May 2006

Mediation Training (King County Dispute Resolution Center) – June 2005

ADMISSIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Admitted to Practice in **California** - December 1991

Admitted to Practice in **Washington** – September 1998

OTHER

Fluent in Italian

Conversant in Spanish