

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 20, 2009 Signature: Tracy Burgess

WSBA # and Year Admitted: _____

Name: TRACY BURGESS

Business Address: PO BOX 1404

City: PUYALLUP State: WA Zip Code: 98371

E-Mail Address: _____

Business Telephone Number: 253.531.7268 FAX: SAME, MUST CALL FIRST

Bilingual: yes If so, in what language(s): Spanish-

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

PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED LIST OF TRAININGS

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

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: 1992

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:

IN PIERCE COUNTY I WAS APPOINTED TO 14 CASES.

C. Percentage of your total case load that RCW 26 Parenting Investigator/Guardian ad Litem work represents overall: 50%

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: _____

THIS FORM IS 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 X No _____. If yes, please explain. I WAS A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MANY YEARS AGO.

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.

Ms. Patricia Rourke filed a complaint against me in 1995, and was successful in obtaining my removal before a pro tem commissioner on the Brown case, alleging that I was not qualified to be on the panel. On file in Pierce County Superior Court is a letter to me, from Mr. Larry Couture, dated 11/1/95, demanding proof of my qualifications. On file is my response dated 11/17/95. On file is also Mr. Couture's reply, dated 12/7/95, stating that I am qualified to remain on the list of qualified Guardian ad Litem in Pierce County.

In 1995, Mr. Al Seago petitioned the court for my removal from the Harding case. Commissioner Harrmman felt that Mr. Harding would cooperate better with a different GAL and appointed someone else. Mr. Harding refused to turn in documents, sign releases of information so that I could obtain CPS records, military records, and other records. I had repeatedly requested the information, but he would not cooperate with me.

I was also removed for a period of time, without my knowledge, from September 2004 to February 2005, due to the fact that I needed back surgery. A judicial officer (I don't know the name of the person,) filed a complaint against me for not getting a report done on time. However, I was never told which case that was involved, or any other facts regarding the complaint.

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 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 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 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 DISAGREE

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

AGREE DISAGREE

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

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.


Signature

MARCH 20, 2009-
Date of signing

TRACY BURGESS
Print Name

PUYALLUP, WA
Place of signing

**GUARDIAN AD LITEM MONTHLY TRAINING
2008-2009**

Noon-hour meetings at the Pierce County Courthouse are scheduled once a month. Below are the dates and topics of these meetings. These dates and topics are subject to change, although we will endeavor to adhere to the schedule provided. Any changes will be made well in advance of the sessions to aid your planning purposes. All sessions are held in courtroom 100 unless otherwise noted.

October 16, 2008

Topic: Child Abuse and Neglect

Presented by: Dr. Yolanda Duralde, MD – Medical Director of the Child Abuse Intervention Department at Mary Bridge Children's Hospital

Agenda: Brief overview of child abuse and neglect; Services available through the Intervention Department at Mary Bridge; Question and Answer Session

November 20, 2008

Topic: The Military Family - Issues of D.V. and Child Abuse

Speaker: Sheila King

Date: November 20, 2008 Noon - Courtroom: 100

January 15, 2009

Topic: Family Court Past, Present, Future and You (Family Court processes, reimbursement/pay, and the GALs' requirements)

Speaker: Judge Stephanie Arend, Judge John Hickman, Leanne Gossman (Family Court Coordinator)

February 19, 2009

Topic: Urinalysis and Falsifying Urinalysis

Speaker: Linda Barker, Chemical Dependency Counselor with Pierce County Alliance

RESUME

TRACY C. BURGESS

P.O. BOX 1404

Puyallup, Washington 98371

(253) 531-7268

EDUCATION:

- 1988-92 Law School, University of Seattle, Juris
Doctorate, Trial Work as a Rule 9 Legal Intern
- 1988-92 Pierce College and Bates, Parenting Classes
- 1981 Insurance School, Wall's State - Licensed
- 1979 Real-estate School, Hall's Institute - Licensed
- 1979 University of Utah, Salt Lake City, B.A., Sociology
- 1976 Weber State, Social Work and Social Welfare
- 1972-74 Instituto Cultural, Extension of Central Washington State,
Guadalajara, Mexico, Spanish, Culture, Contemporary Sociology

EMPLOYMENT:

- 1992/2009 Guardian ad Litem, Pierce County Superior Court, Tacoma,
Washington. I am responsible for investigating parents and
guardians, of minor children, and making custodial
recommendations to the Court.
- and Immigration Assistant, A-1 Immigration and Naturalization,
Tacoma, Washington. I am the sole proprietor of said business that
assists immigrants with legal documentation.

- 1997/2009 Legal Assistant, Law Offices of Christopher R. McLeod, Auburn, Washington. I am responsible for investigation and development of personal injury cases to ready them for litigation. I also serve as a Lay Representative in social security disability cases.
- 1997/2000 Legal Assistant, Law Offices of Thomas Nivison, Tacoma, Washington. I was responsible for investigating issues that arise in personal injury cases. I assisted in the development of cases to ready them for trial or mediation. I also served as a Lay Representative in social security cases and industrial worker compensation cases.
- 1997/1998 Instructor. Pierce College, Tacoma, Washington. Instruct paralegal students in the rules of legal ethics and provide an overview of the legal system.
- 1993/1994 Instructor. Tacoma Community College, Tacoma, Washington. I instructed and counseled International Students in a Freshman Seminar for college and cultural survival in the United States.
- 1992 Legal Intern, University of Puget Sound School of Law, Tacoma, Washington. Rule 9 Eligible, I worked in clinical law program in the area of criminal and domestic law. I obtained valuable trial and clerical experience.
- 1984/1988 Senior Project Administrator, Utah Legal Services, Ogden, Utah. Administrated and supervised the farm worker component of a statewide legal program for the low income. I worked as a paralegal on administrative law cases. I also hosted a monthly, statewide, Task Force Meeting. I obtained additional funding through various grant applications.
- 1982/1984 Human Services Worker, Bear River Association of Governments, Logan, Utah. I was a mediator and organizational liaison, on behalf of the Association, with various community agencies. I also provided direct services to the low income via a loan program. Additionally, I provided crisis and budget counseling. I developed and implemented a self sufficiency program throughout the county.
- 1981/1982 Area Services Manager, Utah Rural Development Corporation, Brigham City, Utah. I was the general supervisor of the Direct Services Programs, such as CETA, Head Start, Health Clinic, Food Bank, Energy Assistance, and the Summer Youth Program. I also provided direct counseling and services to families in need.

- 1981/1981 Crew Leader, CETA Summer Youth Program, Ogden, Utah. Taught low income youth work ethics. Provided direct support services to said youth. I worked side by side with these young men clearing mountain trails and preparing the County Horse Race Track.
- 1978/1980 Real-estate Sales and Public Relations Specialist, El Cid's Mega Resort, Mazatlan, Mexico.
- and Teacher, Central De Idiomas, Mazatlan, Mexico.
I taught Spanish and English to all ages.
- 1977/1978 Mental Health Specialist, Salt Lake City Veterans Hospital, Utah. Co-leader in individual, group, and family therapy. I assisted in formulating and implementing treatment plans for new patients. I also assisted in the formulation and implementation of a Discharge Planning Module. Additionally, I assisted in a two-day workshop for hospital staff to improve interpersonal communication and team work, and effective patient-staff interaction.

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.

Date

March 22, 2009

Signature

Tracy Burgess