

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: 3-15-09 Signature: Marita Strena

WSBA # and Year Admitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: Marita Strena

Business Address: 615 S. Wright Ave #B

City: Tacoma State: Wa Zip Code: 98418

E-Mail Address: strenaphd@AOL.com

Business Telephone Number: 253 278 9810  FAX: 253 627 0842

Bilingual: \_\_\_\_\_ If so, in what language(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

North American Spring exchange Conference  
4-08 NASEN sponsored - Wtra  
W/ at risk Population. as well as discussions  
on ethics of a "do no harm" Policy.

**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: 1984

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: 19

King, Thurston, Pierce

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

70%

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:

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. 0

**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.

Marita Strena 3-15-09  
Signature Date of signing

Marita Strena Tacoma, Wa  
Print Name Place of signing

Please continue to the next page.

**POLICY 2**

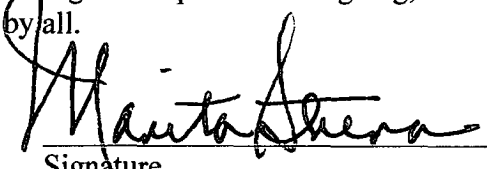
**PIERCE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT  
RCW 26.09.220 AND RCW 26.12.175  
PARENTING INVESTIGATOR/GUARDIAN AD LITEM CODE OF CONDUCT**

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.

3-15-09  
Date

  
Signature

# RESUME

**Marita Strena, Ph.D.**

Tacoma, WA 98418

Office: 253-272-9810 / Fax: 253-627-0842

## **EDUCATION:**

- 1985-1988** Columbia Pacific University, San Rafael, CA. Ph.D. Chemical Dependency and Recovery  
**1984-1985** Columbia Pacific University, San Rafael, CA; MA Psychology, specializing in the Vietnam Era Population  
**1969-72** California State University at Hayward, Hayward, CA; California Teaching Credential  
**1965-69** University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
**June, 1969** BA, Secondary Teaching Credential

## **PERTINENT EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:**

- 1984-present** Guardian ad Litem / Parenting Investigator  
Pierce County Superior Court, Tacoma, WA  
**Description:** *Appointed 700+ times to investigate parents in custody actions.*
- 1987-1990:** Professor, part-time, Chapman College, McChord Air Force Base, Tacoma, WA
- 1979-1995:** Emergency Services Program Manager, Good Samaritan Mental Health Center, Puyallup, WA  
**Description:** *Crisis Response Team member and later supervised the Mental Health Emergency Response Team, whose function was to work with people of all ages in mental and emotional crises. As a part of this program, we provided these services:*
- First responder to hospitals, police departments, fire departments, community agencies, in order to help people (child to older adult) who were in mental and/or emotional crisis.
  - As a part of this service, we needed to be able to diagnosis mental conditions as well as assess differences between mental health, substance abuse, and the developmentally disabled.
  - As a member of the crisis team, I also worked closely with Good Samaritan Hospital's rehabilitation center to help resolve crises among the patients as well as on the medical ward.
- 1976-78:** Group, Family and Individual Therapist; Community Educator, Lakewood Lighthouse, Tacoma, WA  
**Description:** *Acted as therapist; also as community educator in the areas of adolescent behavior drug and alcohol abuse.*
- 1973-76:** Assistant Director, Community Drug Education Coordinator; Group therapist  
Kitsap County Council on Youth, Bremerton, WA  
**Description:** *Individual and Family Therapist, Youth Advocate in a forum of Kitsap County Court professionals working with the difficult cases.*

## **PERSONAL EXPERIENCE:**

While my elderly mother was in assisted living, I was her primary caregiver, and was closely involved with many of her friends who lived in her residential community. I was also my mother's Durable Power of Attorney. Although my mother died this summer at the age of 96, some of these duties still remain to be fulfilled.

## **CREDENTIALS:**

- 1989-present** Certified Mental Health Counselor  
**1991-present** Certified Mediator  
**2006-present** Allied Professionals for Collaborative Law

**COMMITTEES:**

- 1988-present** Point Defiance AIDS Project – current Board President  
**1984-present** Washington State Association of Substance Abuse Professionals  
**1980-84** State Advisory Council on Substance Abuse  
**1974-80** Governor's Advisory Council on Substance Abuse (GAC)  
**1973-1976:** Treatment and Rehabilitation Technical Advisory Committee (TARTAC)

**PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES**

Renee Healy / Friend  
Children's Crisis Specialist / Artist  
(worked with me for 8 years)  
253-222-1509

Commissioner James Marshall  
Superior Court Commissioner  
*Contact information- Available on Request*

Mike Turner  
Attorney at Law, Family Practice  
253-627-3100

Thomas Clifford, Ph.D.  
Clinical and Forensic Psychologist  
253-565-4408

Troy Christianson / Friend  
Clinical Director, Greater Lakes Mental Health Center  
(Student of mine)  
(worked with me for 5 years)  
253-882-9598

*Personal References Available Upon Request*