

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS

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AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2006-14

The prior Administrative Order 2006-14 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Per Supreme Court Rule 906 any attorney who is appointed by the Court to participate in a child custody/visitation matter in the capacity as a guardian *ad litem*, attorney for the child, or child representative, must possess at a minimum the following qualifications:

1. Prior to appointment the attorney shall have ten (10) hours in approved continuing legal education courses in the following areas: child development; roles of guardian *ad litem* and child representative; ethics in child custody cases; relevant substantive state, federal, and case law in custody and visitation matters, family dynamics, including substance abuse, domestic abuse and mental health issues, in the two (2) years prior to the date the attorney qualifies for appointment. For purposes of the initial, as well as the required periodic continuing education, successful completion biannually of the program presented by Bradley University, "Education of Attorneys Who Represent Children Per Rule 906 and 907" will constitute compliance and satisfy the ten (10) hours requirement.

Any program, other than the Bradley program, must be approved by the Chief Judge upon recommendation of the Judicial Coordinator/Presiding Judge of the Family Law Division. The alternative program should reflect live presentations with the opportunity for interaction and the instructors should have a minimum of a master's degree. Any lawyer who has signed up for any program, other than the Bradley University Program, should contact the Judicial Coordinator Judge Jerelyn D. Maher.

2. Periodic continuing education is required in the following approved child-related courses: child development; roles of guardian *ad litem* and child representative; ethics in child custody cases; relevant substantive state, federal, and case law in custody and visitation matters, family dynamics, including substance abuse, domestic abuse and mental health issues. The attorney shall complete ten (10) hours of the aforesaid

continuing education within two (2) years from initial placement upon the approved Tenth Judicial Circuit list and submit certification of the courses to the Judicial Coordinator/Presiding Judge of the Family Division for recommendation for approval by the Chief Judge. Once again, completion of the Bradley program will satisfy the continuing education requirement.

3. Each attorney who has completed the educational requirement must be willing to accept at least two (2) pro bono cases per year.
4. The attorney must have legal malpractice insurance.
5. The attorney must be an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois.

Attorneys who meet the requirements of Paragraph 1 through 5 will be placed on an approved list of attorneys.

If a judge appoints an attorney to a pro bono case, the Judicial Coordinator/Presiding Judge of the Family Division should be notified immediately so that the list will reflect the number of pro bono appointments that attorney possesses. If an attorney assumes the case as a pro bono case, the attorney should likewise notify the Judicial Coordinator/Presiding Judge of the Family Division. The list will be available on a Peoria County website.

ENTERED THIS 10th DAY OF JULY, 2008.

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STUART P. BORDEN, Chief Judge