

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF _____ COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

PLAINTIFF

V.

CAUSE NO. _____

DEFENDANT

**ORDER APPOINTING GUARDIAN AD LITEM AND
AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

THIS CAUSE came on for hearing on this date for an Order appointing *Guardian Ad Litem* for _____ (child/children's name(s)), who is a minor child/are the minor children of the parties, and for authorization of the Guardian Ad Litem to obtain requisite information. The Court finds and orders as follows:

1. The appointment of a *Guardian Ad Litem* is necessary for a determination and for the protection of the best interests of the child/children named herein;
2. _____ (attorney's name), an attorney licensed to practice law in this state, has received the requisite training to serve as *Guardian Ad Litem* and is willing to serve as such in cases before this Court;
3. Initially, the parties shall each be responsible for one-half (1/2) of the expenses of the *Guardian Ad Litem* and any reimbursement by the parties and full or final payment of the *Guardian Ad Litem* fees shall be addressed by the Court at the hearing on the merits;
4. The parties are ordered to each pay \$ _____ within _____ days unto the *Guardian Ad Litem*;
5. The *Guardian Ad Litem* is to diligently investigate and ascertain the facts and make a written report and recommendation as to the best interest of the minor child/children named herein with regard to the claim(s) of the parties.

6. The parties shall each submit unto the *Guardian Ad Litem* a list of witness names, addresses and phone numbers of persons whom he or she request the *Guardian Ad Litem* contact and/or interview regarding the allegations in this matter;
7. To fulfill his/her duties, the *Guardian Ad Litem* shall have access to all privileged or confidential information/records of the minor child/children without the necessity of any further Order or Release, including but not limited to, medical, psychotherapy, counseling and school records;
8. The *Guardian Ad Litem* named herein is hereby authorized to obtain copies of applicable reports, records or information concerning the minor child/children named herein from doctors, health care providers, counselors, therapists, schools, teachers, law enforcement, courts, Mississippi Child and Family Services and any other persons or entities holding any reports, records or information concerning the minor child/children, and these persons and entities are hereby directed to release these records and information to the *Guardian Ad Litem* named herein;
9. The *Guardian Ad Litem* is not a social worker and is not qualified to perform home studies. In the event that it is necessary to have home studies performed, this request shall be made in writing to the *Guardian Ad Litem*, who will then request an Order from this Court regarding same;
10. Within _____ days, the attorneys of record shall provide to the *Guardian Ad Litem* copies of all relevant pleadings in this cause, and copies of discovery requests and responses, and shall confer with the *Guardian Ad Litem* prior to setting this cause for hearing;

11. The *Guardian Ad Litem* shall prepare a final written report and provide it to the attorneys of record and this Court within 10 days of the hearing on the merits.

SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED this the ____ day of _____, 20__.

CHANCELLOR