Guardianship & Conservatorship

What is Guardianship & Conservatorship?

A **guardian** is a person appointed by the court who is responsible for the personal affairs of an incapacitated person. A guardian is responsible for making decisions regarding the incapacitated person's support, care, health, safety, ability to dress themselves, education, therapeutic treatment, and if not in keeping with an order of commitment, the place where they live.

A **conservator** is a person appointed by the court who is responsible for managing the estate and financial affairs of an incapacitated person. Either a conservator or guardian may be full, limited, or for a short-term period of time, depending upon the court's order.

Which court hears these cases?

The Circuit Court.

Where can I get more information about Guardianship & Conservatorship?

The Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia has published the following information:

- You've Been Appointed: Information for Virginia Guardians and Conservators
- Frequently Asked Questions [FAQs] about Appointment of Guardians and Conservators for Incapacitated Adults
- Less Restrictive Options in Virginia: Guardianship and Conservatorship Are Not the Only Options
- Online Tutorial about Appointment of Guardians and Conservators for Incapacitated Adults

Where can I find forms about Guardianship & Conservatorship?

Visit the Guardianship & Conservatorship Forms page for more information.

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Links
Guardianship & Conservatorship Forms
Working Interdisciplinary Network of Guardianship Stakeholders (WINGS)

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