

# Title 26 GAL

## Background Information Record as required by RCW 26.12.175(3)

**\*\*This will be posted on the Benton & Franklin Counties Superior Court Website for public viewing\*\***

I, **TAWNEY CARRIER**, have the following background, knowledge, training, and experience to be on the ***Benton-Franklin Title 26 Guardian ad Litem Registry***:

- A. Highest level of formal education: JD
- B. General training related to Guardian ad Litem's duties: I have completed all training required by the Benton and Franklin Counties Superior Court to be included on the court-approved list of Guardian ad Litem's for Title 26 matters. This includes annual recertification. In addition, I regularly participate in the family law area and take Continuing Legal Education credits which relate to divorce, custody, paternity and other family-law matters. Please see attached list of Continuing Legal Education and Certificates.
- C. Specific training related to issues potentially faced by children in dissolution, custody, paternity, and other family law proceedings: I have received training in various areas related to the issues children face in family-law matters. I have read numerous articles and books that provide various perspectives on the impacts of family-law cases and parental behavior on the kids involved. I am always willing to learn new information and consider different approaches when trying to resolve issues. Please see attached list of Continuing Legal Education and Certificates.
- D. Specific training or education related to child disability or developmental issues I have been very involved with people of all ages with physical, mental and developmental disabilities. I have volunteered for non-profits that provide services to those with disabilities. Professionally, I have experience being a Title 11 Guardian Ad Litem which requires interviewing those with disabilities and the unique accommodations that such interactions can require. I also have clients who have family members with disabilities so I am familiar with the struggles and joys that entails.
- E. Number of years' experience as a Guardian ad Litem: I started Title 26 GAL work in 2009.
- F. Number of appointments as a Guardian ad Litem [as of today's date] and the county or counties of appointment:
  - a) Number of appointments: approximately 25
  - b) Counties appointed in: Benton & Franklin
- G. I have been previously removed from a Guardian ad Litem registry pursuant to a grievance action:
  - No
  - Yes [Please explain each instance on a page and attach hereto. Include the name of the county, court and cause number(s).]
- H. I have founded allegations of abuse or neglect as defined in RCW 26.44.020:
  - No
  - Yes [Please explain each instance on a page and attach hereto.]

- I. A background check is completed annually by Benton/Franklin Counties Superior Court through Washington state patrol criminal identification section.
- J. A statement of my criminal history [as defined in RCW 9.94.A.030] for the period covering ten years prior to this date was supplied to Benton/Franklin Counties Superior Court.
- K. Other information not required by statute:
  - a. I have the following professional licenses or certifications: attorney in Washington
  - b. I have the following trial experience as a GAL: I have testified in four trials
  - c. Other: I request that I be given the opportunity to run a conflict check for the parties' names in any case as well as be provided intakes from each side, payment and all releases (from parties, those over 12 in the household) prior to being appointed. I further request the opportunity to review and sign off on the Order Appointing prior to entry.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

 12/26/18  
Signature & Date

TAWNEY CARRIER  
Printed Name

Some of the Continuing Legal Education courses I have participated in which related to Guardian Ad Litem work:

- The Ethical Representation of Clients with Disabilities
- Elder Law Updates
- Life After Meth: Addiction and Recovery in the Legal
- Family Law Mid-year conference 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012
- The Guardianship Institute: The Nuts and Bolts from A to Z
- The Guardianship Institute: Strategies and Solutions for Meeting the Challenge
- Family Law Skills Institute
- Title 11 Guardian ad litem Training and Recertification
- Cultural Awareness Training
- RCW 74.34
- Title 26 Guardian ad litem Training and Recertification
- Family Counseling and Parenting Seminars
- Tough Talk with Family Law Clients: Practical Tips from the Trenches
- Children's Justice Conference 2010, 2011, 2015, 2016, 2017
- The Public Records Act
- Guardian Reporting Requirements
- The Law Associated with Death and Dying
- Immigration Law Update
- Parenting Plans and Evaluations
- Counseling Professional Privilege and Licensure Practice Restriction
- Medicaid and Special Needs Trust Update
- Effective Mediation
- Adult Guardianships
- Parenting with Dignity
- Mental Illness & the Justice System
- Advanced Training for GALs
- Collaborative law and Financial Planning
  
- Design and Prepare for a Successful Mediation
- Immigration Law: Crimmigration
- Washington Association of Elder Law Attorneys "Unprogram"
- National Alliance of Mental Illness Convention 2018
- Legal Strategies for Resolving Elder Financial Abuse
- Disability Law & Digital Accessibility