

SISSETON-WAHPETON OYATE GUARDIAN AD LITEM ATTORNEY

The SWO Guardian Ad Litem attorney represents the best interest of the child in SWO child protection cases, commencing in tribal court. This is a contract only position, renewal of the contract is subject to funding, \$25,000 per year, flat rate only.

Job Requirements

- a. Be a licensed attorney and member of any state bar.
- b. The attorney will have some experience in tribal courts.
- c. The attorney will have experience in civil abuse and neglect proceedings or child welfare proceedings.
- d. The attorney will have experience in Federal Indian Law or have participated in an Indian law clinic, while in law school.
- e. The attorney will have some experience in family law, in either state or tribal courts.
- f. The attorney will be on site on Thursday afternoons, 2pm-4pm.

Role of the Guardian Ad Litem

- a. Advocate for the best interest of the child.
- b. Conduct an independent investigation into the allegations of any child abuse and neglect petition to determine the facts relevavnty to the Petition.
- c. Meet with child in a home or office setting to determine his or her wishes, as to placement.
- d. Interview parents, teachers, counselors, case workers, and any other party relevant to the action.
- e. Maintain confidentiality of the information related to the case, with the exception of sharing information, as permitted by law.
- f. Monitor the best interest of the child through the tribal court proceedings.
- g. Present written reports on the best interest of the child and make conclusions from the facts and present the same to the Tribal Court.
- h. Testify at hearings.
- i. Be present in the courtroom for any adjudicatory hearing or any termination trial of parental rights.
- j. File motions or responses to Motions filed by other parties.
- k. Conduct discovery.
- l. Participate in settlement agreements.
- m. Subpoena witnesses and cross examine witness.
- n. Make arguments to the Court based on the best interest of the child.
- o. Cross examine witnesses.
- p. Request review of the findings of facts and conclusions of law.
- q. Bring post- trial motions.
- r. File an appeal.
- s. The attorney will be on site, at the times directed by the Court.