

Guardianship and Conservatorship

What is Guardianship and Conservatorship?

Guardians and conservators are appointed and supervised by the court. In a guardianship or conservatorship proceeding, a court orders the appointment of a person or agency to act as a substitute decision maker for a person because the individual has demonstrated an inability to make decisions for themselves based on medical and behavioral evidence. In the case of guardianship, these decisions relate to the person's health, well-being, housing and personal care services. In the case of conservatorship, these decisions relate to the person's financial affairs including their income and assets.

A guardian can arrange and consent to services that are needed to provide for a person's care, comfort, and needs. This may include food, clothing, shelter, medical care, and social and recreational services. Guardians also have the authority to establish the person's living situation and to apply for government benefits. Limited Guardianships are established for people who retain the ability to make some decisions, but need assistance in one or more specific areas.

A conservator is responsible for managing a person's financial affairs and ensuring that their needs are being met. The conservator is responsible for carefully and prudently managing the person's bank accounts, including checking and savings accounts, as well as investments and other assets such as real estate. Typically, the conservator can enter into contracts. The conservator also ensures that bills and other financial obligations are being paid on a timely basis.



ABOUT US:

Facts:

- Minnesota's First Independent Fiduciary, Established in 1969
- Staff Certified as National Certified Guardians and Aging Life Care Professionals

Memberships:

- Aging Life Care Association (ALCA)
- Minnesota Association for Guardianship & Conservatorship (MAGiC)
- National Guardianship Association (NGA)

LOCATIONS:

ST. PAUL (Main)

4120 Lexington Way
Eagan, MN 55123
(651) 452-1512

MINNEAPOLIS (By Appt. Only)

3517 W. 50th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55410
(612) 332-1969

www.FFCorp.com

Why First Fiduciary as a Guardian and Conservator?

First Fiduciary Corporation, founded in 1969, was the first independent fiduciary in Minnesota. With nearly 50 years of experience, we have built a reputation as a trusted leader in the field of fiduciary management. We handle complex cases and difficult family situations. Our employees are held to the highest ethical and professional standards, and are some of the most highly trained and experienced professionals working today. While certification is not required under state law, our staff is required to become National Certified Guardians after their first year of employment. We are leaders in all facets of guardianship and conservatorship and have forged long-term relationships within the legal and social services community.

First Fiduciary Corporation also advocates at the national and state level for the rights of clients, and the transparency and accountability of guardians and conservators.

Guardianship

Our guardianship clients are assigned a Care Manager who will arrange for appropriate services that optimize the health, welfare and safety of our client in the least restrictive manner possible. Our Care Managers work closely with family and others in the client's social support network, to develop plans that will meet the client's needs including physical, social and spiritual care. We communicate with family members and others regarding the client's well-being or care concerns.

In addition, there is always a back-up Care Manager assigned to each case, as well as after business hours emergency support. This ensures proper communication about the client's care.

Conservatorship

Our conservatorship clients are assigned a Case Manager to manage the client's assets, income, bills, contracts and property matters. Our internal process and safeguards ensure financial security. A secondary Case Manager is assigned to each case.

First Fiduciary Corporation is willing to keep current investment management relationships in place when appropriate — something many companies do not allow. We bill only for time spent on the client's case, rather than a flat fee or percentage of estate value. Finally, we provide responsive customer service and care management that sets us apart in our work with clients.

For Conservators and their attorneys: FFC will serve as the agent on MyMNConservator. With our experience, we will ensure your annual accounting is filed quickly and accurately. We can also assist with preparation of audits, and respond to audit questions, for the Conservator Account Auditing Program (CAAP) through the Minnesota Judicial Branch.

Please call us at (651) 452-1512 for more information or to set up a meeting to discuss your needs.

