(a) Impartially gather information as provided by law.

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2 (b) Seek information from the individual and, if communication is possible, communicate in a manner the individual is best able to 3 4 understand. If communication is not possible or there is a barrier 5 to communication, the guardian ad litem must note that in the report under subsection (3). 6

(c) Interview the individual in person at the individual's 7 8 location and out of the presence of any interested person.

(d) Advise the individual that the guardian ad litem does not 9 10 represent the individual as an attorney and that no attorney-client 11 relationship has been created.

12 (e) Identify whether the individual wishes to be present at 13 the hearing. If the allegedly incapacitated individual does not 14 wish to be present at the hearing, the guardian ad litem shall identify the reasons why the individual does not wish to be 16 present.

(f) Identify any barrier to attending hearings at the place where court is held or otherwise fully participating in the hearing, including the need for assistive technology, transportation, or other support. If the allegedly incapacitated individual wishes to attend, the guardian ad litem must identify 22 whether the individual has identified a plan for how the individual will attend.

(q) Identify whether the individual plans to retain legal 24 counsel or wants appointed legal counsel. If the allegedly 25 26 incapacitated individual does not plan to retain legal counsel or 27 request appointed legal counsel, the quardian ad litem must make a recommendation as to whether legal counsel should be appointed. 28

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(h) Identify whether a disagreement or dispute related to the

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petition might be resolved through court-ordered mediation.

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(2) The duties of a guardian ad litem appointed when an individual is alleged to be incapacitated or a legally incapacitated individual include all of the following, as applicable:

(a) Explain to the individual the nature, purpose, and legal effects of a guardian's appointment.

(b) Explain who has filed the petition and who, if anyone, has been nominated as guardian.

(c) Explain to the individual the hearing procedure and the individual's rights in the hearing procedure, as identified in section 5306a, including, but not limited to, the following:

(i) The right to contest the petition, in whole or in part.

(ii) The right to request limits on the guardian's powers.

(*iii*) The right to be present at the hearing. If the individual is unable to attend the hearing at the location court proceedings typically are held, the guardian ad litem shall inform the individual of his or her right for the hearing at another location.

(*iv*) The right to request a reasonable accommodation to allow the individual to participate as fully as possible at the hearing, including with assistive technology or other support.

(v) The right to be represented by legal counsel of the individual's choice. If the individual is unable to secure legal counsel of his or her choice, the right to have legal counsel appointed by the court.

(vi) The right to request an independent medical evaluation.

(d) Explain to the individual that if a guardian is appointed, the guardian may have the power to take certain actions on behalf of the individual. A guardian ad litem must inform the individual

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that a guardian may have any of the following powers and, if
 meaningful communication is possible, discern if the individual
 objects to a guardian having any of the following powers:

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(i) Executing a do-not-resuscitate order.

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(ii) Executing a physician orders for scope of treatment form.

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6 (iii) Consenting to any medical treatment.

7 (*iv*) Consenting to placement decisions, including moving the
8 individual to a nursing facility or adult foster care home.

(v) Choosing whether the individual can marry or divorce.

10 (vi) Handling any financial and property matters, including the 11 sale or disposal of personal property and the maintenance of real 12 property.

(e) Identify whether the individual objects to the particularperson proposed as guardian, if any.

(f) If a guardian were to be appointed, identify a list ofwhom the individual would want to serve, in order of preference.

17 (g) If a guardian were to be appointed, identify whom the18 individual would not want to serve.

(3) Subject to subsections (4) and (5), a guardian ad litem
appointed for an individual alleged to be incapacitated or a
legally incapacitated individual shall file a written report with
the court and in the form required by the state court

administrative office. Why het he as Computered (4) If an individual who is subject to an initial petition under this part, petition to terminate under this part, or petition to modify under this part contests the petition, the guardian ad litem's written report required under subsection (3) must include only the following: We want to wint the work (a) That the individual contests the petition.

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(b) Whether the individual has retained legal counsel or wishes for legal counsel to be appointed.

(c) Whether the individual has any barriers to attending court at the place where it is usually held.

(d) If a guardian were appointed, who the individual would want to serve in order of preference.

(e) If a guardian were appointed, who the individual would not want to serve.

(f) Any other information the guardian ad litem determines would be helpful to the court in ruling on the petition.

(5) If an individual who is subject to an initial petition under this part, petition to terminate under this part, or petition to modify under this part does not contest the petition, the guardian ad litem's report required under subsection (3) must include only the following: — No Mason to Limit the period

(a) The date and time the guardian ad litem met with the individual.

(b) The length of time the guardian ad litem met with the individual.

(c) The location where the guardian ad litem met with the individual.

(d) Whether the guardian ad litem was able to meaningfully communicate with the individual and any barriers to communication.

(e) Who, if anyone, was present for the interview besides the individual.

(f) Whether the individual wishes to be present at the hearing. If the individual wishes to be present at the hearing but has a barrier to fully participating, the guardian ad litem must include in the written report whether the barrier can be resolved

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3 (q) Whether the individual has identified a plan for how the 4 individual will attend. 5 (h) Whether the individual plans to retain legal counsel or 6 has requested appointed legal counsel. If the individual has not 7 indicated he or she wishes to be represented by legal counsel, the 8 guardian ad litem shall include in the written report a 9 recommendation as to whether legal counsel should be appointed to 10 represent the individual. (i) Whether the individual has any of the following: 11 12 (i) A power of attorney with or without limitations on purpose, 13 authority, or time period. 14 (ii) A patient advocate designation. 15 (iii) A physician orders for scope of treatment form. 16 (iv) A benefits payee, trustee, or other fiduciary. 17 (j) Whether a disagreement or dispute related to the petition might be resolved through court-ordered mediation. 18 19 (k) Whether the appointment of a visitor with appropriate 20 knowledge, training, and education such as a social worker, mental 21 health professional, or medical professional could provide the 22 court with the information on whether alternatives to guardianship 23 or a limited guardianship is appropriate. 24 (1) If a guardian were appointed, who the individual would want to serve in order of preference. 25 (m) If a guardian were appointed, who the individual would not 26 27 want to serve. 28 (n) An estimate of the liquid assets as that term is defined in section 5314, income, real property, and a description of 29

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by moving the location of the hearing or using assistive

technology, or both, or other support.

personal property to the extent known after reasonable inquiry.
 (o) Any other information the guardian ad litem determines

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3 would be helpful to the court in ruling on the petition.
4 (6) If a guardian ad litem is appointed for any purpose

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(6) If a guardian ad litem is appointed for any purpose other than an initial petition under this part, petition to terminate under this part, or petition to modify under this part, the guardian ad litem must provide a written report to the court that includes, at a minimum, the information described in subsection (4) or (5), as applicable, and any other information required by law. A special limited guardian ad litem appointed under subsection (13) is not required to provide a written report unless ordered to do so by the court under subsection (13).

(7) A guardian ad litem shall file the report required under subsection (3) with the court and serve it on all interested persons at least 5 days before the date of the hearing. The court may order the report to be filed and served less than 5 days before the hearing only if the petition is made on an emergency basis under section 5312.

(8) The court may receive into evidence without testimony the written report of the guardian ad litem required under subsection (3) if the report is filed with the court and served on all interested persons not less than 5 days before the hearing. The guardian ad litem is required to report findings until the date of the termination of the guardian ad litem. The court may issue on its own initiative, or any interested person may secure, a subpoena to compel the preparer of the report to testify. On request of any interested person, the court shall issue a subpoena to compel the preparer of the report to testify.

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(9) The court shall not order compensation of the guardian ad

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litem unless the guardian ad litem states in the guardian ad litem's written report that the guardian ad litem complied with subsections (2) to (7), as applicable.

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4 (10) The court shall not appoint a person that was previously 5 appointed as guardian ad litem as legal counsel for the individual 6 if the guardian ad litem's report under subsection (3) or 7 recommendation to the court conflicts with the wishes of the 8 individual.

9 (11) If an individual who is subject to a petition under this
10 part has not already secured legal counsel, the court shall appoint
11 legal counsel if any of the following apply:

(a) The individual requests legal counsel.

(b) The individual objects to any part of the petition forguardianship or potential authority of a guardian.

(c) The guardian ad litem determines it is in the individual's best interest to have legal counsel if legal counsel has not been secured. If the individual who is subject to the petition is indigent, this state shall bear the expense of appointed legal counsel under this subsection, at a new cosciliand by the cent

(12) If an individual who is subject to a petition under this part has legal counsel appointed or retained, the appointment of a guardian ad litem terminates. The report of the guardian ad litem must not be admitted into evidence after the appearance or appointment of legal counsel for the individual who is subject to the petition.

(13) After appointment or retention of legal counsel for the
individual who is subject to the petition under this part, the
court may, for good cause shown, appoint a special limited guardian
ad litem to provide information on a narrowly defined issue that

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will likely otherwise be inadequately addressed. A special guardian ad litem is exempt from subsections (2) to (6). The court may order that a special limited guardian ad litem appointed under this subsection provide a written report. The report under this subsection must contain the information the court considers necessary to adequately address the issue leading to the appointment of the special limited guardian ad litem. A special limited guardian ad litem shall not communicate directly with the individual who is subject to the petition and must instead communicate through legal counsel to the individual who is subject to the petition, unless legal counsel otherwise gives consent.

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(14) An individual alleged to be incapacitated has the right to retain legal counsel of his or her choice at any stage, regardless of findings regarding his or her capacity. Retained legal counsel shall file a substitution of legal counsel or a motion to substitute if legal counsel has already been appointed. Retained legal counsel is entitled to reasonable attorney fees.

18 Sec. 5314. (1) If meaningful communication is possible, a 19 legally incapacitated individual's guardian shall consult with the 20 legally incapacitated individual before making a major decision affecting the legally incapacitated individual. To the extent a 21 22 guardian of a legally incapacitated individual is granted powers by 23 the court under section 5306, the guardian is responsible for the 24 ward's care, custody, and control, but is not liable to third 25 persons because of that responsibility for the ward's acts. In particular and without qualifying the previous sentences, a 26 27 quardian has all of the following powers and duties, to the extent 28 granted by court order:

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(a) The-Subject to section 5314a, the custody of the person of

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the ward and the power to establish the ward's place of residence 1 2 in or outside this state. The quardian shall visit the ward within 3 3 months after the guardian's appointment and not less than once 4 within 3 months after each previous visit. The Subject to section 5 5314a, the guardian shall notify the court within not later than 14 6 days of after a change in the ward's place of residence or a change 7 in the guardian's place of residence. All of the following apply to 8 the duty of the guardian to visit the ward:

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9 (i) The guardian shall visit the ward in person not later than 10 1 month after the guardian's appointment and not less than once within 3 months after each in-person visit. The guardian shall also 11 12 visit the ward using both audio and video technology, or if that 13 technology is not available, only audio means, each month in which 14 an in-person visit does not occur. If the ward is unable to 15 communicate using audio and visual or audio-only means, the 16 guardian shall communicate with the ward's careqivers or any other party who is familiar with the ward's circumstances and can apprise 17 18 the guardian of the ward's needs and progress. If the guardian 19 determines that audio and visual visits or audio-only visits are 20 not possible or that the ward is unable to communicate through 21 audiovisual means, the records the guardian must maintain must also 22 identify the circumstances that required the guardian to rely on an 23 audio-only visit or that required the guardian to consult with 24 caregivers or others instead of communicating directly with the 25 ward. The guardian shall maintain records relating to the date, and time, duration, and significant information for each required -264 27 visit. The guardian shall make the records available for the court's review and for review of interested persons, which 28

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(ii) If the guardian is a limited guardian, the visitation

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duties described in subparagraph (*i*) apply. However, the limited guardian may seek approval from the court to conduct audiovisual or audio-only visits less often than monthly in the months in which the limited guardian is not visiting in person. The court may grant the request if the court finds on the record that monthly audiovisual or audio-only visits in the months in which an inperson visit is not occurring are not necessary for the individual's well-being and best interests and identifies on the

10 (*iii*) If the guardian is not a professional guardian, the 11 guardian may delegate the required in-person visits under 12 subparagraph (*i*) to another person. The guardian shall communicate 13 with the person who conducted the in-person visit and maintain 14 records regarding the information shared by the person who 15 conducted the visit.

record the individual's circumstances that led to that finding.

16 (iv) If the guardian is a professional guardian and the 17 professional guardian employs 2 or more employees who hold a 18 license issued under part 5A of this article, the designated 19 decision maker under section 5313(4) shall not delegate the 20 required in-person visits under subparagraph (i) to another person. 21 The designated decision maker may delegate the required audio-22 visual or audio-only visits under subparagraph (i) to another 23 licensed employee only if the designated decision maker is 24 unavailable to conduct the audio-visual or audio-only visits. If 25 the designated decision maker delegates a visit requirement to 26 another licensed employee as allowed under this subparagraph, the 27 licensed employee who conducts the visit must prepare and submit a 28 written report consistent with the requirements under subparagraph 29 (i) to the designated decision maker.

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(v) If the guardian is an individual professional guardian, the professional guardian shall not delegate the required in-person visits under subparagraph (i) to another person.

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4 (b) If entitled to custody of the ward, the duty to make 5 provision for the ward's care, comfort, and maintenance and, when 6 appropriate, arrange for the ward's training and education. The 7 quardian shall secure services to restore the ward to the best 8 possible state of mental and physical well-being so that the ward 9 can return to self-management at the earliest possible time. The 10 guardian shall make a reasonable effort to identify a reasonable 11 number of items of personal or sentimental value, including, but 12 not limited to, family heirlooms, photo albums, and collections. 13 Not later than 56 days after appointment, the guardian shall serve on all interested persons a list of the identified items. The list 14 15 must be signed by the guardian and include an attestation that 16 states, "I represent this list is true and correct to the best of 17 my knowledge, information, and belief at the time of signing. I 18 understand that I must handle this property, like all of the ward's 19 property for which I am responsible, consistent with my fiduciary duties. This may include sale, disposal, or other actions to meet 20 21 my fiduciary duties. I am not responsible for storing any items at my own expense.". Without regard to custodial rights of the ward's 22 23 person, the quardran shall take reasonable care of the ward's 24 clothing, furniture, vehicles, and other personal effects and 25 commence a protective proceeding if the ward's other property needs 26 protection. If a guardian commences a protective proceeding because 27 the quardian believes that it is in the ward's best interest to 28 sell or otherwise dispose of the ward's real property or interest 29 in real property, the court may appoint the guardian as special

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1 conservator and authorize the special conservator to proceed under 2 section 5423(3). A guardian shall not otherwise sell the ward's 3 real property or interest in real property.

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4 (c) The power to give the consent or approval that is 5 necessary to enable the ward to receive medical, mental health, or other professional care, counsel, treatment, or service. However, a 6 7 guardian does not have and shall not exercise the power to give the 8 consent to or approval for inpatient hospitalization unless the 9 court expressly grants the power in its order. If the ward objects 10 or actively refuses mental health treatment, the quardian or any 11 other interested person must follow the procedures provided in 12 chapter 4 of the mental health code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1400 to 13 330.1490, to petition the court for an order to provide involuntary mental health treatment. The power of a guardian to execute a do-14 15 not-resuscitate order under subdivision (d), execute a nonopioid directive form under subdivision (f), or execute a physician orders 16 17 for scope of treatment form under subdivision (q) does not affect 18 or limit the power of a guardian to consent to a physician's order 19 to withhold resuscitative measures in a hospital. As used in this 20 subdivision, "involuntary mental health treatment" means that term 21 as defined in section 400 of the mental health code, 1974 PA 258, 22 MCL 330.1400.

23 (d) The power to execute, reaffirm, and revoke a do-not-24 resuscitate order on behalf of a ward. However, a quardian shall not execute a do-not-resuscitate order unless the guardian does all 25 of the following: 26

27 (i) Not more than 14 days before executing the do-not-28 resuscitate order, visits the ward and, if meaningful communication 29 is possible, consults with the ward about executing the do-not-

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1 resuscitate order.

2 (ii) Consults directly with the ward's attending physician as
3 to the specific medical indications that warrant the do-not4 resuscitate order.

5 (e) If a guardian executes a do-not-resuscitate order under
6 subdivision (d), not less than annually after the do-not7 resuscitate order is first executed, the duty to do all of the
8 following:

9 (i) Visit the ward and, if meaningful communication is 10 possible, consult with the ward about reaffirming the do-not-11 resuscitate order.

12 (ii) Consult directly with the ward's attending physician as to 13 specific medical indications that may warrant reaffirming the do-14 not-resuscitate order.

15 (f) The power to execute, reaffirm, and revoke a nonopioid16 directive form on behalf of a ward.

(g) The power to execute, reaffirm, and revoke a physician
orders for scope of treatment form on behalf of a ward. However, a
guardian shall not execute a physician orders for scope of
treatment form unless the guardian does all of the following:

(i) Not more than 14 days before executing the physician orders
for scope of treatment form, visits the ward and, if meaningful
communication is possible, consults with the ward about executing
the physician orders for scope of treatment form.

(ii) Consults directly with the ward's attending physician as
to the specific medical indications that warrant the physician
orders for scope of treatment form.

(h) If a guardian executes a physician orders for scope of
 treatment form under subdivision (f), (g), not less than annually

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after the physician orders for scope of treatment is first
 executed, the duty to do all of the following:

3 (i) Visit the ward and, if meaningful communication is
4 possible, consult with the ward about reaffirming the physician
5 orders for scope of treatment form.

6 (ii) Consult directly with the ward's attending physician as to
7 specific medical indications that may warrant reaffirming the
8 physician orders for scope of treatment form.

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9 (i) If a conservator for the ward's estate is not appointed,
10 the power to do any all of the following:

(i) Institute The power to institute a proceeding to compel a
person under a duty to support the ward or to pay money for the
ward's welfare to perform that duty.

14 (ii) Receive The power to receive money and tangible property 15 deliverable to the ward and apply the money and property for the 16 ward's support, care, and education. The guardian shall not use 17 money from the ward's estate for room and board that the guardian or the guardian's spouse, parent, or child have furnished the ward 18 19 unless a charge for the service is approved by court order made on 20 notice to at least 1 of the ward's next of kin, if notice is 21 possible. The quardian shall exercise care to conserve any excess 22 for the ward's needs. Upon a reconcil regies

(iii) The duty to allow interested persons to review proofs of income and disbursements at a time reasonably convenient to the guardian and interested persons.

(j) The duty to report the condition of the ward and the
ward's estate that is subject to the guardian's possession or
control, as required by the court, but not less often than
annually. The guardian shall also serve the report required under

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this subdivision on the ward and interested persons as specified in 1 2 the Michigan court rules. A report under this subdivision must 3 contain all of the following:

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(i) The ward's current mental, physical, and social condition. 5 (ii) Improvement or deterioration in the ward's mental, physical, and social condition that occurred during the past year. 6 7 (iii) The ward's present living arrangement and changes in his

8 or her living arrangement that occurred during the past year.

9 (iv) Whether the quardian recommends a more suitable living 10 arrangement for the ward.

11 (v) Medical treatment, including mental health treatment, 12 received by the ward.

13 (vi) Whether the quardian has executed, reaffirmed, or revoked a do-not-resuscitate order on behalf of the ward during the past 14 15 vear.

16 (vii) Whether the quardian has executed, reaffirmed, or revoked 17 a nonopioid directive form on behalf of the ward during the past 18 year.

19 (viii) Whether the quardian has executed, reaffirmed, or revoked 20 a physician orders for scope of treatment form on behalf of the 21 ward during the past year.

22 (ix) Services received by the ward.

23 (x) A list of the guardian's visits with, and activities on 24 behalf of, the ward.

25 (xi) A recommendation as to the need for continued 26 guardianship.

(k) If a conservator is appointed, the duty to pay to the 27 28 conservator, for management as provided in this act, the amount of 29 the ward's estate received by the quardian in excess of the amount

lique assets exceed the limit for administering a decedence estese under section 3982, 22 dijuster in the manner of conservation

the guardian expends for the ward's current support, care, and University 1 2 education. The guardian shall account to the conservator for the 3 amount expended.

4 (2) If a conservator has not been appointed for the ward, and 5 if the ward's qualified estate is greater than 400% of the federal 6 poverty level, the guardian must file a petition for 7 conservatorship under part 4. This subsection does not prevent the 8 appointment of a conservator for the ward if the ward's qualified 9 estate is less than 400% of the federal poverty level. As used in this subsection: 10

(a) "Federal poverty level" means the poverty guidelines 11 published annually in the federal register by the United States 12 Department of Health and Human Services under its authority to 13 revise the poverty line under 42 USC 9902. 14

(b) "Liquid assets" means assets that can easily be converted 15 into cash in a short amount of time. Liquid assets includes, but is 16 17 not limited to, cash, checking and savings accounts, money market instruments, certificates of deposit, mutual funds held in a 18 taxable account, marketable securities, bonds, and the monetary 19 20 value of life or other insurance. A retirement account is considered a liquid asset once the individual's circumstances allow 21 him or her to withdraw cash without facing any Internal Revenue 22 23 Service early withdrawal penalties.

24 (c) "Ward's qualified estate" means, except as otherwise provided in subdivision (d), the ward's liquid assets or income, or 25 both, reported by the guardian ad litem under section 5305 or later 26 discovered by the guardian. 27

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(d) Ward's qualified estate does not include liquid assets or income that is subject to some oversight such as a representative

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1 payee, durable power of attorney, joint ownership, trust, or other 2 protection.

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3 Sec. 5314a. (1) The guardian shall maintain a legally 4 incapacitated individual in the legally incapacitated individual's 5 permanent residence if possible and consistent with the well-being 6 and preferences of the legally incapacitated individual. If a 7 legally incapacitated individual is removed from his or her 8 permanent residence temporarily for any reason, the guardian must 9 make all reasonable efforts to return the legally incapacitated 10 individual to his or her permanent residence at the earliest opportunity consistent with the legally incapacitated individual's 11 and best interes removal of the legally incapacitated individual 12 wishes. Temporary 13 from his or her permanent residence for the purpose of receiving health care or supervision, for engaging in family or social 14 15 activities, or for other reasons including the well-being or convenience of the legally incapacitated individual does not 16 17 relieve the guardian of the obligations set forth in this section 18 regarding permanent removal from the permanent residence. A guardian shall not primarily consider the guardian's own 19 20 convenience or benefit when making a decision to remove the legally 21 incapacitated individual from the legally incapacitated 22 individual's permanent residence or selecting a new residence for 23 the legally incapacitated individual.

(2) A guardian shall explore reasonably available and
affordable supports and services that could enable the legally
incapacitated individual to remain in his or her permanent
residence.

(3) If a guardian proposes to move the legally incapacitatedindividual from his or her permanent residence, the guardian must

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attempt to consult with the legally incapacitated individual and honor the legally incapacitated individual's preference to the greatest extent possible.

(4) In exercising the guardian's power to establish the legally incapacitated individual's place of residence, the guardian shall do both of the following:

7 (a) Select a residential setting the guardian believes the 8 legally incapacitated individual would select if the legally incapacitated individual were able. If the guardian does not know 9 10 and cannot reasonably determine what setting the legally incapacitated individual would likely select, or the quardian 11 reasonably believes the decision the legally incapacitated 12 13 individual would make would unreasonably harm or endanger the welfare or personal or financial interests of the legally 14 15 incapacitated individual, the guardian must choose a residential setting that is consistent with the legally incapacitated 16 17 individual's best interest.

(b) Give priority to a residential setting in a location that will allow the legally incapacitated individual to interact with persons and participate in activities important to the legally incapacitated individual and meet the legally incapacitated individual's needs in the least restrictive manner reasonably feasible.

(5) If a guardian that is not a professional guardian removes
a legally incapacitated individual from the legally incapacitated
individual's permanent residence to another location in this state,
the guardian must notify the court in writing not later than 14
days after the removal. The notification required under this
subsection must include the address of the new permanent residence.

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(6) A guardian shall not move the legally incapacitated individual out of state without order of the court. If the guardian petitions to move the legally incapacitated individual out of state, a guardian ad litem must be appointed and the court shall schedule a hearing regardless of whether the individual files objections or expresses dissatisfaction with the proposed move If the legally incapacitated individual files objections or expresses dissatisfaction with the proposed move, the court must appoint legal counsel if the legally incapacitated individual is not already represented by legal counsel.

11 (7) Subject to subsections (9) and (10), and except as 12 otherwise provided in subsection (14), a professional quardian 13 shall not permanently remove a legally incapacitated individual 14 from the legally incapacitated individual's permanent residence 15 unless, subject to subsection (8), the professional guardian files a petition under this subsection and the court grants the petition 16 17 under subsection (13). A petition under this subsection must be 18 separate from the petition for a finding of incapacity and 19 appointment of quardian under section 5303. A petition under this 20 subsection must include all of the following information:

(a) The individual's current permanent residence.

(b) The proposed new residence.

(c) The reason for the proposed move.

(d) Whether the move is to a more or less restrictive setting.

(e) The efforts made or resources explored to enable the individual to remain in his or her current permanent residence.

(f) Whether the guardian has engaged in meaningful communication with the individual about the proposed move.

(g) Whether the individual objects to or supports the proposed

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(8) If the person petitioning for guardianship under section 5303 proposes or anticipates that a professional guardian will be appointed under section 5306, the petitioner or any interested person that believes that it is necessary for the well-being of the alleged incapacitated individual to move the individual permanently from his or her permanent residence may file a petition under subsection (7) seeking authority for a professional guardian, if appointed under section 5306, to permanently remove the alleged incapacitated individual from his or her permanent residence.

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(9) If a professional quardian determines that to protect the 11 12 health, safety, or welfare of the legally incapacitated individual, 13 it is necessary to move the legally incapacitated individual from 14 his or her permanent residence to a another residence the 15 professional guardian intends to be permanent before obtaining 16 court approval under subsection (13), the professional guardian may 17 move the legally incapacitated individual. Not later than 14 days after moving the legally incapacitated individual as allowed under 18 19 this subsection, the professional guardian must file a petition 20 under subsection (7). The petition must include the circumstances 21 that the professional quardian determined were necessary to move 22 the legally incapacitated individual before filing a petition under 23 subsection (7).

(10) If, after a temporary stay in a health care facility or
at a residence the professional guardian initially intended to be
temporary, the professional guardian determines that it is
necessary to change to the permanent residence of the legally
incapacitated individual, the professional guardian must, not later
than 14 days after making the determination, file a petition under

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subsection (7). The petition must include the circumstances underlying the professional guardian's determination.

(11) If a petition for removal from the permanent residence has been filed under subsection (7), the court shall promptly appoint a guardian ad litem and hold the hearing not later than 28 days after the petition is filed. The guardian ad litem must, in addition to the other duties set forth in section 5305, do all of the following:

9 (a) Advise the individual that a petition has been filed to 0 move the individual from his or her permanent residence to the new 1 residence identified in the petition or another location the court 2 determines is appropriate.

(b) Explain that if the court grants the petition to move the individual, the guardian will have the authority to change the individual's permanent residence to the location specified in the petition or to another location the court determines is appropriate.

(c) Ascertain, if possible, the wishes of the individual to remain in his or her permanent residence.

(d) Include a summary of the discussion in the guardian ad litem's written report.

(12) If the alleged incapacitated individual or legally incapacitated individual does not already have legal counsel, the court must appoint legal counsel if the individual files an objection to the petition for authority to move the individual from his or her permanent residence under subsection (7) or if the guardian ad litem's report under subsection (11) states that the individual objects to being removed from his or her permanent residence.

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(13) The court shall not grant a petition for removal from the permanent residence under subsection (7) unless the court, after due consideration and opportunity for testimony on the matter, determines by clear and convincing evidence that moving the legally incapacitated individual from the permanent residence to the residence identified in the petition is 1 or more of the following:

(a) Necessary to protect the individual's physical health, safety, or welfare.

(b) Consistent with the individual's wishes.

10 (14) If the legally incapacitated individual must leave the permanent residence because the residence becomes permanently 11 unavailable, the professional guardian must provide at least 14 12 13 days' prior written notice to the legally incapacitated individual 14 if possible under the circumstances or, if less time is available 15 before the legally incapacitated individual must move, notice at the earliest opportunity. The professional guardian shall provide 16 17 written notice to the court and all interested persons not later than 14 days after the move under this subsection explaining why 18 the permanent residence is no longer available, whether the 19 20 professional guardian attempted to consult with the legally incapacitated individual about where the legally incapacitated 21 22 individual wanted to move, whether the professional guardian 23 honored the legally incapacitated individual's preferences regarding where he or she wanted to move, the address of the new 24 residence, the type of residence, and how the new residence will 25 26 meet the legally incapacitated individual's needs. If the legally 27 incapacitated individual's residence becomes permanently unavailable, the professional guardian is not required to file a 28 29 petition under subsection (7) and the court is not required to

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appoint a guardian ad litem or legal counsel or hold a hearing. For purposes of this subsection, a residence becomes permanently unavailable as a result of a facility closure, removal of the property from the rental market, involuntary discharge, notice to quit, or eviction that cannot be appropriately resolved by the professional guardian, irreparable damage to the permanent residence, or other circumstances that are not initiated by the professional guardian but necessitate the permanent removal of the legally incapacitated individual from his or her permanent residence.

(15) If removal from the permanent residence necessitates the sale, transfer, or disposal of real property or sentimental personal property and if meaningful communication is possible, the guardian must consult with the legally incapacitated individual before taking any action to dispose of the property. A guardian shall make all reasonable efforts to identify and honor the legally incapacitated individual's wishes to preserve sentimental personal property in the overall context of the legally incapacitated individual's estate, including items identified in the inventory under section 5314, and shall take reasonable steps to safeguard that personal property. The court may remove a guardian that fails to comply with this subsection.

(16) As used in this section, "permanent residence" means any of the following:

(a) The location the allegedly incapacitated individual or legally incapacitated individual uses as a permanent address, in which most of the individual's possessions are maintained.

(b) The location the allegedly incapacitated individual or legally incapacitated individual considers to be his or her home.

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Sec. 5406. (1) Upon On receipt of a petition for a 1 2 conservator's appointment or another protective order because of 3 minority, the court shall set a date for hearing. If, at any time in the proceeding, the court determines that the minor's interests 4 5 are or may be inadequately represented, the court may appoint an attorney to represent the minor, giving consideration to the 6 minor's choice if 14 years of age or older. An attorney appointed 7 by the court to represent a minor has the powers and duties of a 8 9 quardian ad litem.

10 (2) Upon On receipt of a petition for a conservator's 11 appointment or another protective order for a reason other than 12 minority, the court shall set a date for initial hearing. Unless 13 the individual to be protected has chosen legal counsel, or is 14 mentally competent but aged or physically infirm, the court shall 15 appoint a guardian ad litem. to represent the person in the 16 proceeding. If the alleged disability is mental illness, mental 17 deficiency, physical illness or disability, chronic use of drugs, 18 or chronic intoxication, the court may direct that the individual 19 alleged to need protection be examined by a physician or mental 20 health professional appointed by the court, preferably a physician 21 or mental health professional who is not connected with an 22 institution in which the individual is a patient or is detained. 23 The individual alleged to need protection has the right to secure 24 an independent evaluation at his or her own expense. The court may 25 send a visitor to interview the individual to be protected. The 26 visitor may be a quardian ad litem or a court officer or employee. 27 (3) The court may utilize, as an additional visitor, the 28 service of a public or charitable agency to evaluate the condition

29 of the individual to be protected and make appropriate

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recommendations to the court.

2 (4) A guardian ad litem, physician, mental health
3 professional, or visitor appointed under this section who meets
4 with, examines, or evaluates an individual who is the subject of a
5 petition in a protective proceeding shall do all of the following:
6 (a) Consider whether there is an appropriate alternative to a
7 conservatorship.

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8 (b) If a conservatorship is appropriate, consider the
9 desirability of limiting the scope and duration of the
10 conservator's authority.

(c) Report to the court based on the considerations requiredin subdivisions (a) and (b).

(5) Subject to subsection (6), the duties of a guardian ad
14 litem appointed under subsection (2) for an individual alleged to
15 need protection include all of the following:

(a) Impartially gather information as provided by law.

(b) Seek information from the individual and, if communication is possible, communicate in a manner the individual is best able to understand. If communication is not possible or there is a barrier to communication, the guardian ad litem must note that in the

21 report.

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(c) Interview the individual in person at the individual's location and out of the presence of any interested person.

(d) Advise the individual that the guardian ad litem does not
represent the individual as an attorney and that no attorney-client
relationship has been created.

(e) Identify whether the individual wishes to be present at
the hearing. If the individual alleged to need protection does not
wish to be present at the hearing, the guardian ad litem shall

1 identify the reasons why the individual does not wish to be 2 present.

3 (f) Identify any barrier to attending hearings at the place
4 where court is held or otherwise fully participating in the
5 hearing, including the need for assistive technology,
6 transportation, or other support. If the individual alleged to need
7 protection wishes to attend, the guardian ad litem must identify
8 whether the individual has identified a plan for how the individual
9 will attend.

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10 (g) Identify whether the individual plans to retain legal 11 counsel or wants appointed legal counsel. If the individual alleged 12 to need protection does not plan to retain legal counsel or request 13 appointed legal counsel, the guardian ad litem must make a 14 recommendation as to whether legal counsel should be appointed.

(h) Identify whether a disagreement or dispute related to thepetition might be resolved through court-ordered mediation.

17 (6) The duties of a guardian ad litem appointed for an
18 individual alleged to need protection or a protected individual
19 include all of the following, as applicable:

20 (a) Explain to the individual the nature, purpose, and legal
21 effects of a conservator's appointment or issuance of a protective
22 order.

(b) Explain who has filed the petition and who, if anyone, hasbeen nominated as conservator, if applicable.

(c) Explain to the individual the hearing procedure and the
individual's rights in the hearing procedure, including, but not
limited to, the following:

28 29 (i) The right to contest the petition, in whole or in part.

(ii) The right to request limits on the conservator's powers.

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(iii) The right to be present at the hearing. If the individual 1 is unable to attend the hearing at the location court proceedings 2 3 typically are held, the guardian ad litem shall inform the individual of his or her right to have the hearing at another 4 5 location.

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6 (iv) The right to request a reasonable accommodation to allow 7 the individual to participate as fully as possible at the hearing, 8 including with assistive technology or other support.

9 (v) The right to be represented by legal counsel of the 10 individual's choice. If the individual is unable to secure legal counsel of his or her choice, the guardian ad litem shall explain 11 12 to the individual that he or she has the right to have legal 13 counsel appointed by the court.

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(vi) The right to request an independent medical evaluation. (d) Explain to the individual that if a conservator is appointed, the conservator may have the power to take certain actions on behalf of the individual. A guardian ad litem must inform the individual that a conservator may have any of the powers 18 described in section 5407 and, if meaningful communication is possible, discern if the individual objects to a conservator having any of those powers.

(e) Identify whether the individual objects to the particular 22 23 person proposed as conservator, if any.

24 (f) If a conservator were to be appointed, identify a list of 25 who the individual would want to serve, in order of preference.

26 (q) If a conservator were to be appointed, identify who the 27 individual would not want to serve.

28 (7) A guardian ad litem appointed for an individual alleged to need protection or a protected individual shall file a written 29

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(8) If an individual who is subject to an initial petition

report with the court in the form required by the state court

under this part, petition to terminate under this part, or petition to modify under this part contests the petition, the guardian ad litem's written report required under subsection (7) must include only the following: (a) That the individual contests the petition. (b) Whether the individual has retained legal counsel or wishes for legal counsel to be appointed. (c) Whether the individual has any barriers to attending court at the place where it is usually held. (9) If an individual who is subject to an initial petition

14 under this part, petition to terminate under this part, or petition 15 to modify under this part does not contest the petition, the 16 guardian ad litem's written report required under subsection (7) 17 must include only the following:

(a) The date and time the guardian ad litem met with the individual.

(b) The length of time the guardian ad litem met with theindividual.

(c) The location where the guardian ad litem met with theindividual.

(d) Whether the guardian ad litem was able to meaningfully communicate with the individual and any barriers to communication.

(e) Who, if anyone, was present for the interview besides theindividual.

(f) Whether the individual wishes to be present at thehearing. If the individual wishes to be present at the hearing but

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administrative office.

has a barrier to fully participating, the guardian ad litem must include in the written report whether the barrier can be resolved by moving the location of the hearing or using assistive technology, or both, or other support.

5 (g) Whether the individual has identified a plan for how the 6 individual will attend.

7 (h) Whether the individual plans to retain legal counsel or 8 has requested appointed legal counsel. If the individual has not 9 indicated he or she wishes to be represented by legal counsel, the 10 guardian ad litem shall include in the written report a 11 recommendation as to whether legal counsel should be appointed to 12 represent the individual.

(i) Whether the individual has any of the following:

14 (i) A power of attorney with or without limitations on purpose,15 authority, or time period.

(ii) A patient advocate designation.

(iii) A physician orders for scope of treatment form.

(iv) A benefits payee, trustee, or other fiduciary.

(j) Whether a disagreement or dispute related to the conservatorship petition might be resolved through court-ordered mediation.

(k) Whether the appointment of a visitor with appropriate knowledge, training, and education such as a social worker, mental health professional, or medical professional could provide the court with the information on whether alternatives to conservatorship or a limited conservatorship under section 5419(1) is appropriate.

(1) For an initial petition under this part, if a conservator were appointed, who the individual would want to serve in order of

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(m) For an initial petition under this part, if a conservator were appointed, who the individual would not want to serve.

(n) An estimate of the liquid assets as that term is defined in section 5314, income, real property, and a description of 5 personal property to the extent known after reasonable inquiry.

(10) If a quardian ad litem is appointed for any purpose other than an initial petition under this part, petition to terminate under this part, or petition to modify under this part, the guardian ad litem must provide a written report to the court that includes, at a minimum, the information described in subsection (5), (6), (8), or (9), as applicable, and any other information required by law. A special limited quardian ad litem appointed under subsection (16) is not required to provide a written report unless ordered to do so by the court.

(11) The court may receive into evidence without testimony the written report of the guardian ad litem required under subsection (7) if the report is filed with the court and served on all interested persons not less than 5 days before the hearing. The guardian ad litem is required to report findings until the date of the termination of the guardian ad litem. The court may issue on its own initiative, or any interested person may secure, a subpoena to compel the preparer of the report to testify. On request of any interested person, the court must issue a subpoena to compel the preparer of the report to testify.

(12) A guardian ad litem shall file any report required under this section with the court and serve the report on all interested persons at least 5 days before the hearing. The court shall not order compensation of the guardian ad litem unless the guardian ad

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litem states in the guardian ad litem's written report that the guardian ad litem complied with this subsection.

3 (13) The court shall not appoint a guardian ad litem as legal 4 counsel for the individual if the guardian ad litem's report under 5 subsection (7) or recommendation to the court conflicts with the 6 wishes of the individual.

7 (14) If an individual who is subject to a petition under this
8 part has not already secured legal counsel, the court shall appoint
9 legal counsel if any of the following apply:

10 (a) The individual who is subject to the petition requests11 legal counsel.

(b) The individual who is subject to the petition objects to
any part of the petition for conservatorship or potential authority
of a conservator.

(c) The guardian ad litem determines it is in the best interest of the individual subject to the petition to have legal counsel and, if legal counsel has not been secured, the court shall appoint legal counsel. If the individual who is subject to the petition is indigent, this state shall bear the expense of appointed legal counsel, af a way emotion by the cava

(15) If an individual who is subject to a petition under this part has legal counsel appointed or retained, the appointment of a guardian ad litem terminates. The report of the guardian ad litem under subsection (7) must not be admitted into evidence after the appearance or appointment of legal counsel for the individual who is subject to the petition.

(16) After appointment or retention of legal counsel for the
individual who is subject to the petition under this part, the
court may, for good cause shown, appoint a special limited guardian

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1 ad litem to provide information on a narrowly defined issue that 2 will likely otherwise be inadequately addressed. A special guardian 3 ad litem is exempt from subsections (5) to (10). The court may 4 order that a special limited guardian ad litem provide a written 5 report. The report under this subsection must contain the 6 information the court considers necessary to adequately address the 7 issue leading to the appointment of the special limited guardian ad litem. A special limited guardian ad litem shall not communicate 8 9 directly with the individual who is subject to the petition and 10 must instead communicate through legal counsel to the individual 11 who is subject to the petition, unless legal counsel otherwise 12 gives consent.

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13 (17) (5) The individual to be protected is entitled to be 14 present at the hearing in person. If the individual wishes to be 15 present at the hearing, all practical steps must be taken to ensure 16 the individual's presence including, if necessary, moving the site 17 of the hearing. The individual is entitled to be represented by 18 legal counsel, to present evidence, to cross-examine witnesses, 19 including a court-appointed physician or other qualified person and 20 a visitor, and to trial by jury. The issue may be determined at a 21 closed hearing or without a jury if the individual to be protected 22 or legal counsel for the individual so requests.

(18) (6) Any person may request for permission to participate
in the proceeding, and the court may grant the request, with or
without hearing, upon on determining that the best interest of the
individual to be protected will be served by granting the request.
The court may attach appropriate conditions to the permission.

28 (19) (7)—After hearing, upon—on finding that a basis for a
29 conservator's appointment or another protective order is

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established by clear and convincing evidence, the court shall make
 the appointment or other appropriate protective order.

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3 Sec. 5417. (1) Within Not later than 56 days after appointment or within another time period specified by court rule, a 4 5 conservator shall prepare and file with the appointing court a 6 complete inventory of the estate subject to the conservatorship 7 together with an oath or affirmation that the inventory is believed 8 to be complete and accurate so far as information permits. The 9 conservator shall serve on interested persons, along with the 10 inventory, account statements with account numbers redacted that 11 reflect the value of depository and investment accounts dated not 12 later than 30 days after the inventory's date. The conservator 13 shall provide a copy of the inventory to the protected individual 14 if the individual can be located and is 14 years of age or older 15 and to interested persons as specified in the Michigan court rules.

16 (2) The conservator must keep suitable records of the
17 administration and exhibit those records on the request of an
18 interested person.

19 (3) The conservator must make reasonable efforts to identify 20 on the inventory under subsection (1) a reasonable number of items 21 of special personal or sentimental value, including, but not 22 limited to, family heirlooms, photo albums, or collections. To the extent meaningful conversation permits, the conservator must make 23 24 an inquiry with the protected individual as to what items the 25 protected individual identifies as having special personal or 26 sentimental value If the conservator is unable to locate an item 27 identified as having special personal or sentimental value at the 28 time of filing the inventory under subsection (1), the conservator 29 must state that on the inventory. The inventory must be signed by

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1 the conservator and include an attestation that states, "I 2 represent this list is true and correct to the best of my 3 knowledge, information, and belief at the time of signing. I 4 understand that I must handle this property, like all of the 5 protected individual's property, consistent with my fiduciary duties. This may include sale, disposal, or other actions to meet 6 7 my fiduciary duties. I am not responsible for storing any items at 8 my expense.". A conservator shall make all reasonable efforts to 9 identify and honor the protected individual's wishes to preserve 10 items of special personal or sentimental value in the overall 11 context of the protected individual's estate, including items 12 identified in the inventory and annual accounts, and shall take 13 reasonable steps to safequard the property. The court may remove a 14 conservator that fails to comply with this subsection. This-15 subsection does not apply to a financial institution appointed as professional conservator. 16

(4) The inventory under subsection (1) must list any 17 18 merchandise, funeral services, cemetery services, or prepaid 19 contracts for which the protected individual or conservator is the 20 contract buyer or contract beneficiary under the prepaid funeral and cemetery sales act, 1986 PA 255, MCL 328.211 to 328.235. If the 21 22 conservatorship estate includes assets described in this 23 subsection, the conservator must file all of the following with the 24 inventory under subsection (1):

(a) A copy of any prepaid contract under the prepaid funeral
and cemetery sales act, 1986 PA 255, MCL 328.211 to 328.235.

(b) Proof that payments made under a prepaid contract are held
in escrow or under a trust agreement in compliance with the prepaid
funeral and cemetery sales act, 1986 PA 255, MCL 328.211 to

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2 (c) The most recent escrow statement issued concerning the prepaid contract.

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(d) Proof of any assignments of life policies or annuity 4 5 contracts made to purchase merchandise, funeral services, or cemetery services under the prepaid funeral and cemetery sales act, 6 7 1986 PA 255, MCL 328.211 to 328.235, under subsection (1) must list property with reasonable detail and the type and amount of any 8 9 encumbrance.

10 (5) The inventory under subsection (1) must be served on all interested persons. Any interested person may file an objection to 11 the inventory with the court and serve the objection on all other interested persons. The court shall set the matter for hearing. 12 13 Sec. 5418. (1) A conservator shall account to the court for 14 15 administration of the trust not less than annually unless the court 16 directs otherwise, upon resignation or removal, and at other times as the court directs. On-The conservator shall serve on interested 17 18 persons, along with the account under this subsection, account 19 statements with account numbers redacted that reflect the value of 20 depository and investment accounts dated not later than 30 days 21 after the inventory's date and receipts, invoices, or other 22 documentation for expenses in excess of \$1,000.00. The account must into he can be request 23 be in the form as provided by the state court administrative

24 office, or substantially similar. The account must detail assets 25 including those identified in the inventory under section 5417, debts, gross income, and expenses. 26

27 (2) Not later than 56 days after the termination of the protected individual's minority or disability, a conservator shall 28 29 account to the court or to the formerly protected individual or

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