

# What is Guardianship?

Guardianship is a legal arrangement through which a person (the guardian) is legally authorized to make decisions for another individual (the protected person).

Only the court can grant a guardianship, therefore, the court oversees the process to ensure that individuals under guardianship receive special protection.

A guardian is a position of high trust, with responsibilities for the protected person and duties to the court.



#### For more information contact:

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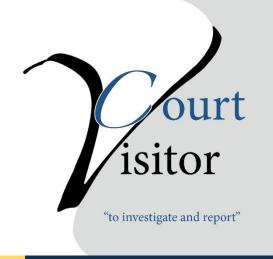
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The mission of the Utah State Courts is to provide the people an open, fair, efficient, and independent system for the advancement of justice under the law.







## **Court Visitor Program**

The Court Visitor Program provides an important service in assisting the courts' ability to make informed decisions about guardianship cases.

The program assigns volunteers, called "Court Visitors," to conduct investigations at the direction of the judge.



### What is a Court Visitor?

- Court Visitors are special appointees with no personal interest in the proceedings.
- Court Visitors investigate, observe, and report back to the judge.
- Court Visitors serve as the "eyes and ears" of the court.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

The Court Visitor Program utilizes the assistance of dozens of trained Court Visitors from a variety of backgrounds.

The program is always looking for additional volunteers, with openings across the state.

# Responsibilities

Court Visitors regularly interact with Utah's vulnerable adults and persons with disabilities.

Court Visitors can expect to:

- Conduct interviews
- Investigate the individual's current situation and general well-being
- Examine records and documents
- Search for guardians with whom the court has lost contact
- Submit reports to the judge

### What are the Benefits?

Improve the lives of vulnerable adults.

Help families become better guardians.

Learn more about guardianship matters.

Advance career options and obtain meaningful experiences.



### **Am I Qualified?**

Volunteers should meet these basic requirements:

- 18 years or older
- Access to a computer and basic computer skills
- Access to reliable transportation
- Ability to work with a wide variety of individuals
- Excellent listening skills, patience, and tact
- The ability to remain objective in making reports to the Court

To learn more or to get an application, contact the Program Coordinator at: (801) 238-7030 **or** visitor@utcourts.gov