



News Release

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Judiciary Seeks Guardianship Monitoring Volunteers in Cumberland County

An information session regarding volunteer opportunities with the New Jersey Judiciary Guardianship Monitoring Program (GMP) will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 2 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Cumberland County Library, 800 E. Commerce St., Bridgeton.

Volunteers are needed in Cumberland County to help ensure that incapacitated adults under court-authorized guardianships are treated with dignity and respect. GMP volunteers are vital to achieving both court oversight and protection of incapacitated adults, while also assisting guardians in their sometimes difficult role.

Supreme Court Chief Justice Stuart Rabner announced the program in January 2013, saying, "We need a host of volunteers to help ensure that individuals who cannot take care of themselves are not taken advantage of by others. Please step forward to help us achieve that noble aim."

Volunteers will spend six to 12 hours each month working in the county surrogate's office during business hours. Volunteers will help establish a statewide guardianship system and review documents from guardians regarding the physical and/or financial well-being of the adult deemed incapacitated by the court.

Volunteers must be comfortable using computers and should have some experience and/or interest in reading and understanding legal and/or financial documents. Individuals who are able to focus and capture pertinent details of filings and integrate these into the court software; or people with a background or experience in accounting, budgeting, finance, or other related areas are encouraged to apply. Training is provided for volunteers.

GMP volunteers must be 18 years of age or older and must agree to comply with the Code of Conduct for Judiciary Volunteers. They are asked to commit to serve for at least one year. Candidates will be interviewed for details about their experience and background. Selected candidates will be fingerprinted and must satisfactorily pass a criminal history background check.

Interested candidates can access the volunteer application at www.njcourts.com/guardianship. Questions can be sent to njguardianship.mailbox@judiciary.state.nj.us.

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