

Addendum Certification Information

The thoughts below are not my own. Most come from Steve King, Tarrant County Probate Court Judge, Probate Court #1.

You must be in compliance with changes to Guardianship ad litem certification after passage of HB39. Recent legislation increased the guardianship ad litem educational requirement from 3 hours to 4 hours, **one hour of which must cover alternatives to guardianship and supports and services available to proposed wards. In addition, the attorney for an applicant in a guardianship proceeding must complete the ad litem certification course. These changes take effect September 1, 2015.**

There has been a webcast for the 1hour additional educational course. I hope you took part in it. It is my understanding that if you did not watch the webcast at its scheduled time, register now and watch it when the recording is available after the broadcast. You can watch it at on-demand. Upon completion of the program, attorneys may print an **addendum** to attach to their current certificate to be compliant under HB 39. Be sure to send me a copy of that information when you receive it.

Attorneys who are not yet certified and need to become certified in order to serve as an ad litem or attorney for an applicant for guardianship in a new proceeding filed on or after 9/1/15, may take a 4-hour Guardianship for ad litem certificate online on-demand. That course will satisfy the new statutory requirement.

Please send copies of your addendums and any other paperwork you receive to me just as you've always done. If I have in any way given you the wrong information, it is solely on me.

Here is a link that was provided to me regarding the course. <http://www.texasbarcle.com/CLE/AABuy0.asp?sProductType=EV&IID=14361>

I understand there are Group Viewings of a webcast at a discount. Contact Group & Firm Sales Manager Laura Angle of TexasBarSolutions at 512-250-5575 or langle@texasbar.com.

The name of the course: Supports and Services: A New Concept in Alternatives to Guardianship. This class satisfies the new education requirements passed in HB39 which take effect September 1, 2015. However, it is my understanding that you have to take the original three-hour guardianship course PRIOR to taking the 1-hour course.

If you sign up for the Guardianship Law 2015 course which is for Attorney Ad Litem Certification, it includes the additional 1-hour course. However, the cost is \$160.00. It is MCLE# 901325917 (08/19/2015 – 07/31/2016; MCLE Credit: 4.5 hours, includes 1hour of ethics; satisfies HB39 requirement.

Karen Sweat