

**Utah Working Interdisciplinary Network of Guardianship Stakeholders (WINGS)**

Thursday, October 16, 2025 - 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Attended			Excused	
Judge Coral Sanchez	Ann Humpherys	Michael Starks	Megan Connelly	Wendy Fayles
Sarah Box	Rachelle Johnson	Shonna Thomas	Rob Ence	Alan Ormsby
Deborah Brown	Eve Larsen	Katie Thomson	Leslie Francis	Keri Sargent
Natasha Burningham	Wendy Naylor	Holly Thorson	Brant Christiansen	Todd Weiler
Katie Cox	Andrew Riggle	James Toledo		
Rob Denton	Tanya Schmidt	Michelle Wilkes		
Nels Holmgren	Bree Spaulding	Kaye Lynn Wootton		

Agenda			
	Topic	Presenter	Materials
<b>12:00</b>	<b>Meeting begins</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housekeeping, minutes</li> </ul>	Judge Sanchez	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>August 2025 – Minutes (draft)</li> </ul>
<b>12:10</b>	<b>Group Discussion</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brown Bag training – November 2025</li> </ul>	Keri Sargent Shonna Thomas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training Topic Suggestions</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Education workgroup - draft manual feedback</li> </ul>	Shonna Thomas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic Guidelines to Serve as Guardians and Conservators (9.16.25 draft)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Background Disclosures workgroup – procedural questions</li> </ul>	Shonna Thomas	
<b>1:15</b>	<b>Project Updates</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attorney Shortages and Funding updates</li> </ul>	Keri Sargent Shonna Thomas Andrew Riggle	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forms workgroup</li> </ul>	Shonna Thomas	
<b>1:30</b>	<b>Other Business</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>		
<b>2:00</b>	Meeting adjourned		

Housekeeping
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting began at 12:10pm.</li> <li>No changes were recommended to the minutes. Michelle Wilkes motioned to approve; Kaye Lynn Wootton seconded. Minutes approved.</li> </ul>

- The committee welcomes Tanya Schmidt to WINGS. Tanya has recently accepted the role of OPG Director.
- Meeting adjourned at 1:02pm.

## Group Discussion

### Brown Bag Training

WINGS had a Brown Bag training planned for November 2024 that never took place. The committee has another opportunity to provide this training on November 12, 2025. The group discussed the direction the training could take, including a focus on recent legislation (Severe Intellectual Disability, Support Decision-Making), and guardianship 101 basics, as there are several new judges across the state who may not have background in guardianship/probate matters.

Katie Cox, Rob Denton, Michelle Wilkes, Shonna Thomas, Keri Sargent, and Judge Sanchez volunteered to meet as a subcommittee to develop a training. It was suggested to invite Brant Christiansen to participate, as he was involved in developing the training the previous year.

### Education workgroup

The group discussed the Basic Guidelines handbook draft. Committee members offered suggestions for a few areas of the manual, such as including an example of right to association to illustrate the concept, adding in intellectual property as an asset type, and the possible use of an ethics committee. Sarah Box mentioned that the reading level may be too high. The group discussed ways to simplify the language, including the use of an AI program.

### Background Disclosure workgroup

Shonna Thomas updated the committee on the progress of this WINGS project. In talking with judicial staff across the state, some asked if there would be a fee waiver for the cost of the background check, and if so, how would that work if the disclosure is intended to be filed alongside the petition. The group discussed other case types that have fee waivers, such as expungement related matters. Kaye Lynn volunteered to follow up with BCI to see if fee waivers are a possibility. The fee waiver would have to come from outside the court, as this project cannot include a fiscal note. It was agreed that even if a fee waiver is not possible, the \$15 fee for a background check would not be an undue burden for proposed guardians.

## Project Updates

### Attorney Shortages and Funding Updates

Andrew Riggle reported that he is not optimistic on getting a sponsored funding measure before the legislature this coming session. Shonna Thomas has nothing new to report on the funding proposal from the courts but did note that the Utah State Bar is willing to provide a letter of support for this funding proposal.

### Forms workgroup

The workgroup continues to tackle guardianship forms. The last batch sent to the Stylistics committee were forms related to temporary and emergency guardianships. Stylistics was able to review some at their September meeting, and they will finish reviewing at their October meeting. The goal is to have the full Forms Committee review them at their meeting in November. If all goes as planned, these forms could be in circulation early next year.

Other Business
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shonna noted that there are still some vacancies on WINGS that need to be filled – an additional judge to serve in place of Judge Kelly, and a representative from the medical community. Shonna will keep the committee updated on the status of those appointments.</li> </ul>

Action Items	
– Schedule Brown Bag planning sessions for training subcommittee.	Shonna Thomas
– Send feedback on the Basic Guidelines handbook to Shonna.	Stakeholders
– Check with BCI on the possibility of a fee waiver.	Kaye Lynn Wooton

Deferred / Continuing Items
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Basic Guidelines handbook</li> <li>– Attorney shortages and funding proposals</li> <li>– WINGS workgroups – forms, background disclosure, education</li> <li>– Brown Bag, November 12<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>

<b>Next Meeting(s):</b>	December 18, 2025 February 19, 2026 April 16, 2026 June 18, 2026 August 20, 2026 October 15, 2026
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