

• PROBATE Q & A / GUARDIANSHIP

<p>What is the role of the Probate Investigator?</p> <p>The Probate Investigator’s role is to look into the reasons for the guardianship, the suitability of the proposed guardian(s), the needs of the minors and their preferences. The Probate Investigator will also obtain history of the minor’s care, DCFS history and conduct a criminal background check. The Probate Investigator will prepare a written report of information gathered and recommendations to the Court regarding the guardianship.</p> <p>What are the qualifications of the Probate Investigator?</p> <p>Qualifications to be a Probate Investigator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation from an accredited 4-year university with a degree in social science, psychology, or closely related field -AND- 3 years of experience performing field investigations as a probation or parole officer, law enforcement officer, or social worker. • Some investigators hold master’s degrees in a mental health area and a clinical license: LCSW and LMFT. <p>Many have backgrounds with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) or Adult Protective Services (APS)</p> <p>How is the Probate Investigation interview conducted?</p> <p>During the Probate Investigation interview, also referred to as a Case Review Conference, the Probate Investigator meets face to face with the proposed guardian(s) and the minor(s). The interview will take place at the Stanley Mosk or the Michael Antonovich Courthouse at an assigned date and time. The Probate</p>	<p>What is the role of the Probate Investigator?</p> <p>What are the qualifications of the Probate Investigator?</p> <p>How is the Probate Investigation conducted?</p> <p>How do I prepare for the Probate Investigation?</p> <p>Will the Probate Investigator speak with the parents of the minors?</p> <p>What contact will the Probate Investigator have after the petition for guardianship is granted?</p> <p>Where is the Probate Investigations office?</p> <p>If I have a concern or question, who should I contact?</p>
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Investigator will meet with the parties together and separately.

The Probate Investigator will request history on the minor(s) and proposed guardian(s) from the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).

The Probate Investigations office will also conduct a criminal background check of the proposed guardian(s). The DCFS information and criminal background check information is not provided to the parties without an order from the court.

The interviews will typically be scheduled within a month prior to the hearing date.

The Probate Investigator will prepare a written report of information gathered and recommendations to the Court regarding the guardianship.

Special Immigration Juvenile Status cases involving proposed wards age 18 and older will be conducted by remote video conferencing.

How do I prepare for the Probate Investigation?

There are several steps to be taken to prepare for the Probate Investigation. First, the proposed guardian(s) and minor(s) should be made available for the investigation. Second, the documents requested by the Probate Investigator, like the immunizations and school records, should be emailed ahead of time to PI@lacourt.org Third, contact information for the minor(s)' parents should be provided, if available.

For more information, please see Form PROI 075 (add hyperlink)

Will the Probate Investigator speak with the parents of the minors?

The Probate Investigator will speak to the parents of the minor(s) when possible. The proposed guardian is required to provide known contact information.

What contact will the Probate Investigator have after the petition for guardianship is granted?

The Probate Investigator will generally not have ongoing contact with the guardian(s) or minor(s) but may initiate further contact with the parties if requested by the Court.

Where is the Probate Investigations office?

Probate Investigations is located in the Stanley Mosk Courthouse, Room 208. Hours are 8 am to 4:30 pm, closed from noon-1 pm. Appointments for guardianship investigations are available at the Michael Antonovich Antelope Valley Courthouse, Room 3575 A.

If I have a concern or question, who should I contact?

The Supervising Probate Investigators can respond to questions or concerns about Probate Investigations. The main telephone number is 213-830-0855. Offices are in the Stanley Mosk Courthouse, Room 208, open 8 am to 4:30 pm, closed from noon to 1 pm.