IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, EIGHTEENTH

JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR

BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Probate Division

IN RE: THE GUARDIAN ADVOCACY OF

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Respondent’s Name

Person with Developmental Disability

**LETTERS OF GUARDIAN ADVOCACY OF THE PERSON (CO-GUARDIAN ADVOCATES) OF THE PERSON**

***(Form I)***

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

 WHEREAS, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has/have been appointed Guardian Advocate(s) of the person, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, a person with a developmental disability who lacks the decision-making capacity to do some of the tasks necessary to take care of the ward’s person; and

 NOW, THEREFORE, I, the undersigned Circuit Judge, declare that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is/are duly qualified under the laws of the State of Florida to act as Guardian Advocate(s) of the Person of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, with full power to exercise the following powers and duties on behalf of the person with a developmental disability:

1. (\_\_\_) to apply for government benefits;
2. (\_\_\_) to determine residency;
3. (\_\_\_) to consent to medical and mental health treatment;
4. (\_\_\_) to make decisions about the social environment and social aspects of life;
5. (\_\_\_) to make decisions regarding education; and
6. (\_\_\_) to bring an independent action for support.

**Without first obtaining specific authority from the court, under sections 744.3215(4) and 744.3725, Florida Statutes, the Guardian Advocate (co-guardian advocates) may not:**

1. commit the respondent to a facility, institution, or licensed service provider without formal placement proceedings under Chapter 393, Florida Statutes;
2. consent to the participation of the respondent in any experimental biomedical or behavior procedure, exam, study, or research;
3. consent to the performance of sterilization or abortion procedure on the respondent;
4. consent to termination of life support systems provided for the respondent;
5. initiate a petition for dissolution of marriage for the ward; or
6. exercise any authority over any health care surrogate appointed by any valid advance directive executed by the disabled person, under Chapter 765, Florida Statutes, except upon further order of this court.

The respondent retains all legal rights except those that are specifically granted to the guardian advocate (co-guardian advocates) under court order.

 **DONE AND ORDERED** this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_.

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Judge