



Seen Around: Witnessed in a Washington State Superior Court

Two Certified Professional Guardians brought an elderly client to court along with the client's two elderly siblings.

One sibling used a walker and the other sibling walked very slowly half bent over. The guardians assisted their client to stand before the judge and then helped each of the siblings walk to the front of the courtroom to stand before the judge. When the judge asked why they were there, one of the guardians respectfully explained that their client loves spending time with the siblings and the siblings like to take the client out for drives. The guardian explained that they do not want to discourage any visits, but the problem was that the siblings no longer had driver's licenses. They [the guardians] could not allow their client to ride in the car with the siblings as it was no longer safe for their client.

The judge looked at the guardian and said, "You're the guardian, you can prevent your client from going on car rides with the siblings."

One of the siblings piped up saying, "But there isn't a written note from the judge saying that we cannot take our sibling for car rides!" The judge looked from the siblings to the guardian and immediately wrote the note.

Once the note was completed, the guardians gently and respectfully helped their client and each of the siblings out of the courtroom.

[The certified professional guardians had petitioned this hearing themselves, as there was no money for an attorney, just so the siblings could have their say in court.]