



The Law Office of
David W. Adams, LLC

David W. Adams, Esq.
Angela E. Christoffel, Esq.

david.adams@dwa-law.com
a.christoffel@dwa-law.com

Admitted to practice in MA
Admitted to practice in MA & NY

Next Steps: What to do Once You Have Chosen a Guardian for your Child

- Talk with the person you want to select as temporary guardian. Make sure they are willing to accept the appointment.
- Execute the proper paper work. It is a simple usually one to two page document called an Emergency Guardianship Proxy. It should be notarized.
- Make sure both you and the proposed temporary guardian have copies of the proxy or know where the copies are kept.
- If you have family members who may object to your choice, speak with them ahead of time to explain your choice. This will help avoid problems and miscommunication later on, if the guardian actually has to step in and help.
- If you feel your child is old enough to understand, explain the basics of a guardian. Tell them if there ever is an emergency who the person is who will take care of them. Make sure your child is comfortable with your choice.
- If possible, have your child spend time at least once a month with the person you have chosen. This will help your child remain familiar with their guardian and make transitions smoother if your guardian has to step in on your behalf.
- Make a cheat sheet for your temporary guardian with information about your child's doctor, dentist, school, allergies, medical conditions and medication.