

State of Connecticut
Office of the Probate Court Administrator
Probate Court Regulations

Section 12
Panels of Attorneys

12.1 Authority

This regulation is issued in accordance with C.G.S. sections 17a-76, 17a-274, 17a-498, 17a-503, 17a-543a, 17a-685, 19a-131b, 19a-221, 19a-265, 45a-77, 45a-132, 45a-620, 45a-621, 45a-649a, 45a-694, 45a-708, 45a-753, 46b-150a and 46b-172a.

12.2 Panels of attorneys

(a) The administrator shall maintain a panel of attorneys for use by the courts when making appointments in the types of matters listed in section 12.2 of the Probate Court Rules of Procedure.

(b) Each Probate Court shall maintain a panel of attorneys for use by the court when making appointments in matters not governed by section 12.2 of the Probate Court Rules of Procedure and when appointing attorneys as guardians ad litem.

12.3 Application for membership on panel

(a) Any attorney who is a member of the Connecticut bar in good standing may request membership on the administrator's panel of attorneys or on a court's panel of attorneys by submitting a written application to the administrator or the court, as applicable. The request shall include the following information about the attorney:

(1) name, office address, telephone and fax numbers, Juris number, and email address;

- (2) year of admission to the Connecticut bar;
- (3) employment or law firm affiliation;
- (4) probate districts in which the attorney wishes to serve;
- (5) types of cases for which the attorney is willing to be appointed;
- (6) languages spoken; and
- (7) any public record of disciplinary action or pending disciplinary matter.

(b) On receipt of a request under subsection (a), the administrator or judge, as applicable, may add an attorney to the panel or may reject an application if the attorney's disciplinary history, criminal record or issues relating to the attorney's competence, diligence or professionalism raise a substantial question regarding the attorney's fitness to serve as a court-appointed attorney or guardian ad litem. The administrator or judge, as applicable, may remove an attorney from the panel based on the criteria set forth in this subsection. The administrator or judge, as applicable, shall notify the attorney in writing of the rejection of an application or removal from a panel.

12.4 Non-attorney guardians ad litem

Nothing in this regulation shall preclude a court from appointing an individual who is not an attorney as a guardian ad litem.

Section 12 effective January 1, 2018 (Approved by the Executive Committee September 13, 2017; Approved by the Judiciary Committee January 1, 2018)