TARA S. GREEN, CLAY COUNTY CLERK OF COURT AND COMPTROLLER

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Approval of Guardianship Bonds

744.351 Bond of guardian.—

(1) Before exercising his or her authority as guardian, every person appointed a guardian of the property of a ward in this state shall file a bond with surety as prescribed in s. 45.011 to be approved by the clerk. The bond shall be payable to the Governor of the state and the Governor's successors in office, conditioned on the faithful performance of all duties by the guardian. In form the bond shall be joint and several. When the petitioner or guardian presents compelling reasons, the court may waive a bond or require the use of a designated financial institution as defined in s. 655.005(1).

The following criteria must be met in order for the bond to be approved:

- 1. It must be payable to the Governor of the State of Florida and their successors.
- 2. The bond must be the correct amount as ordered by the Judge.
- 3. It must be signed by the Guardian.
- 4. It must be signed by the representative for the bonding company.
- 5. It must contain the corporate seal for the bonding company.
- 6. It must have a Power of Attorney (POA) indicating that the signing representative has approval to sign such bonds for the company providing the bond.
- 7. The bond amount may not exceed the amount allowed, which is listed in the POA.