

## **Press Release**

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## New: Adult Guardianship & Conservatorship Self-Help Phone Line is Live!

June 14, 2022, Anchorage, AK - The Alaska Court System's Access to Justice Program has received a federal grant to expand its self-help services to include an <u>Adult Guardianship and</u> <u>Conservatorship Self-Help Phone Line</u>. The new Self-Help Phone Line is in addition to the <u>Family</u> <u>Law Self-Help Phone Line</u>. Funding for the new phone line is through the federal Administration on Aging Elder Justice & Adult Protective Services Elder Justice Innovation Grants.

Chief Justice Daniel Winfree lauded the launch of the new phone line, saying that "the Alaska Court System has been and remains a national leader in self-help services. It's a cost-effective way to provide concrete and practical resources to help Alaskans navigate their legal issues, and we are very proud of it. The federal grant has given us the opportunity to expand our self-help services to serve the growing number of guardianship cases as we experience a Silver Tsunami in Alaska and across the country."

The Phone Line provides information and educational materials about guardianship and conservatorship to Alaskans over the phone and on the <u>website</u>. Phone line staff gives free legal information about forms, procedures, and resources. They are not lawyers and cannot give legal advice.

Adult Guardianship & Conservatorship Self-Help Phone Line: (907) 264-0520 Phone Line Hours: Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 5 pm Friday: 8 am - noon

Guardians are appointed by the court to make decisions for an incapacitated person. Guardians make decisions about housing, medical care, legal issues, and services.

Conservators are appointed by the court to handle the financial affairs for another person, called the protected person. The conservator collects and deposits all income, pays all debts and bills, secures all assets, and handles taxes and insurance.