

YAVAPAI COUNTY SELF-SERVICE CENTER
HELPFUL INFORMATION: HOW TO FILE AN OBJECTION
TO A PETITION ABOUT A GUARDIANSHIP and/or CONSERVATORSHIP

1. **WHO CAN FILE AN OBJECTION:** Generally, you must have some valid interest in the case to be able to file an OBJECTION TO A PETITION about a guardianship and/or conservatorship. If you received copies of the court papers from the Petitioner or his/her attorney, you will probably be allowed to file an Objection.

FEES: When you file with the court there are fees for petitions, responses, requests, motions, objections and various other actions. The court will accept payment in the form of cash, VISA/MasterCard, debit or credit cards, money orders, or personal checks made payable to "Clerk of Superior Court". Personal checks will be accepted with current picture ID. To check out the current fees go online to <http://www.co.yavapai.az.us/clerksupct.aspx>, and find the fees schedule on the left hand side of the page, or call the Clerks' Office in either Prescott at (928)771-3312, or Camp Verde at (928) 567-7741.

If you cannot afford the filing fee and/or the fee for having the papers served by the Sheriff or by publication, you may request a deferral or waiver (delay or completely waive fees and/or costs) when you file your papers with the Clerk of the Court. The Deferral or Waiver of Court Fees and/or Costs and Consent to Entry of Judgment Application is available at no charge from the Clerks' Office, though a fee for applying for the deferral will be added to your costs.

2. **WHERE TO FILE:**

YAVAPAI COUNTY COURTHOUSE
Clerk of Superior Court
120 S. Cortez St.
Prescott, AZ 86303

YAVAPAI COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
Clerk of Superior Court
2840 N. Commonwealth Dr.
Camp Verde, AZ 86322

3. **WHEN MUST AN OBJECTION BE FILED:** You must file the original Objection no later than **3 (three) days** before the Court hearing is scheduled.

4. **WHO GETS COPIES OF THE OBJECTION:** **Mail or hand-deliver a copy** of your Objection to the Petitioner or his/her attorney, and the office of the Judge who is scheduled to hold the hearing. If you do not copy the Judge's office, the Judge might not get the paperwork on time, and your Objection might not be considered.

You should also **mail or hand-deliver** copies to the proposed ward (the minor (if 14 years old or older) or the adult) who has or will have the guardian and everyone else to whom the petitioner gave notice of the court matter. Ask the Petitioner for the names and address of these people, or go to the Clerk's Office to request the file and look at the copy of the PROOF OF NOTICE filed by the Petitioner that will give you all this information.

5. **WHAT TO SAY IN THE OBJECTION:** Tell the Judge as simply as you can what you object to, and why. Write neatly in **black ink**, and be sure you give enough detail about why you disagree with the Petition.
6. **GOING TO THE HEARING:** If you file the Objection, you are required to go to the Court hearing to be available to tell the Judge why you disagree with the Petition and to answer any questions the Judge might have. It is up to the Judge as to whether or not you can testify. The Judge will make this decision based upon your relationship with the proposed ward, the nature of your objections, time available, and other factors.
7. **OTHER HELP:** If you still have questions about this procedure, you can ask a lawyer for legal advice. You can look up a lawyer in the telephone book under "attorneys."