YAVAPAI COUNTY Self-Service Center

TO THE PARENT OF MINOR CHILD (REN) WHO IS/ARE THE SUBJECT OF GUARDIANSHIP DOCUMENTS

You have received copies of documents filed with the Court asking that a guardian be appointed for your child(ren). One of the documents should have been a copy of the Notice of Hearing giving the date, time and place of the hearing. A hearing has been set so a judge can decide whether to appoint a guardian.

A form is enclosed asking for your consent to the guardianship. Before you decide whether to agree with the guardianship, read the documents very carefully. It is a good idea to contact an attorney who can help you understand what is happening and advise you of your rights.

If you decide to proceed without an attorney and agree with the Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor, complete the information on the Consent of Parent to Guardianship of a Minor and sign it in front of a Notary Public. If you mark the box in Statement #3, you will waive (give up) your right to be notified of any hearing or court proceeding about this matter. You are not required to mark this box. You may continue to receive notice of hearings and attend any hearings. You can deliver the Consent to the Clerk's office to be filed, or deliver it to the Petitioner who will file it. There is no cost to you to file the Consent.

At least three days before the hearing, any parent or interested person who opposes the relief requested in the petition shall file with the court an objection to the petition or a motion authorized by Rule 12, Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure, or the person may appear at the hearing and orally object to the petition.

- 1. If a party files an objection to the petition or a motion fewer than three days before the hearing date, the objecting party shall attend the hearing and inform the court that a written objection or motion has been filed.
- 2. If the person objecting to the relief requested in the petition does not file an objection or motion with the court before the hearing date but instead orally objects to the petition at the hearing, the person objecting shall subsequently file a written objection or motion, as directed by the court or agreed to by the parties, setting forth the grounds for the person's objection.
- 3. A written objection to a petition shall comply with the provisions of Rules 8 through 11, Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure.

There is a fee to enter an appearance in the case and object to the petition.

IF YOU DO NOT AGREE WITH THE PETITION, IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU SEEK ADVICE FROM AN ATTORNEY.

If you disagree and attend the scheduled hearing, the Judge may hear your testimony and consider it before making a decision.