

THE BRIEF

July 2019

An electronic update for the legal community providing a brief look at news in Eau Claire County Courts.

Helpful tips ~ Minor Settlements: (Class code 30203)

A Guardian ad Litem (GAL) in a minor settlement case cannot be the attorney or member of attorney's firm representing the parents on behalf of the minor. The GAL's role is advisory, representing the best interest of the minor.

Filing a new civil case for minor settlement should include the following documents: 1) Petition for Approval of Minor Settlement, 2) Affidavit from Attorney in Support of Petition, 3) Petition for Appointment of GAL, 4) Consent to Act as GAL, 5) Order Appointing GAL, and 6) Proposed Order Approving Minor Settlement.

If a Petition seeking Appointment of a GAL was requested prior to the filing of a new civil action, please reference the GF (Group File) case number with your civil filing. Please note; GF cases are not available for eFiling, and there is no filing fee for appointment of a GAL.

Additional information about this and other topics to assist you in accessing the court system can be found at: www.co.eau-claire.wi.us/departments/departments-a-k/clerk-of-courts

eFiling Tip:

When initiating a civil, family, or small claims case electronically, it is the responsibility of the filing party to serve the eFiling notice on the defendant(s)/respondent(s). For new small claims actions, service of the defendant's instructions is also required.

July 24 - Tell an Old Joke Day

Humor is a great way to manage stress in the workplace. Enjoy the following 'Humor in the Courtroom' and share your favorite old joke on Wednesday, July 24.

The following is a courtroom exchange between a defense attorney and a farmer with a bodily injury claim.

Attorney: "At the scene of the accident, did you tell the Deputy you had never felt better in your life?"

Farmer: "That's right."

Attorney: "Well, then, how is it that you are now claiming you were seriously injured when my client's auto hit your wagon?"

Farmer: "When the Deputy arrived, he went over to my horse, who had a broken leg, and shot him. Then he went over to Rover, my dog, who was all banged up, and shot him. When he asked me how I felt, I just thought under the circumstances, it was a wise choice of words to say I've never felt better in my life."