



First Trust Centre, Suite 400 South  
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Louisville, Kentucky 40202  
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James K. Murphy  
Ruth J. Wilkerson  
William L. Hoge, III  
Attorneys at Law

*DivorceInKentucky.com*

## GUARDIANSHIP OF A MINOR CHILD

Dear Prospective Client:

We understand you are interested in talking with us about the Guardianship or Conservatorship of a minor child. Even the simplest legal procedures can develop complications; however, we strive to deliver honest, caring, affordable legal services in every matter referred to us. Problems may arise concerning the natural parents' refusal to relinquish rights or the Court being convinced that the natural parents stand in a better position with regard to the minor child.

Your case will require an initial personal consultation so that we can understand the facts of your case and advise you on your rights and duties. We charge \$200 for an initial consultation, during which we expect to give you a really good idea of what you can expect to happen in your situation.

**Before we can begin representing you**, we will require (1) a signed contract which explains our respective obligations and (2) a legal engagement fee, the size of which will be based on our estimation of the amount of time needed to resolve your case. *There is no guarantee, however, that all of your legal expenses will be covered by this Engagement Fee.*

Though some of the questions or situations may not apply to your situation, your efforts to complete the attached **Guardianship DataPack** and provide us with copies of any information or documents pertinent to this matter (including copies of all prior court papers, mortgages, bank statements, mortgages, loan documents, credit card statements, paycheck stubs, etc.) will go a long way to help evaluate your Family Law situation and will help to contain your legal expense.

If we are retained as your attorney, you will be billed for the amount of professional time required to adequately represent your interests in this matter. Anything you do to complete the attached **Guardianship DataPack** and to provide as much supporting documentation as possible will help to reduce the amount of attorney and paralegal time required in this action.

Any information you provide will, of course, be kept confidential and you are under no obligation until we each execute a written Engagement Agreement.

Very truly yours,

JAMES K. MURPHY  
RUTH J. WILKERSON  
WILLIAM L. HOGE, III  
*Attorneys at Law*

THIS IS AN ADVERTISEMENT.

## Attorneys at Law

Concentrating in Family Law Representation  
throughout Greater Metropolitan Louisville

*THIS IS AN ADVERTISEMENT.*

Email: [HogePartners@DivorceInKentucky.com](mailto:HogePartners@DivorceInKentucky.com)

Website: [DivorceInKentucky.com](http://DivorceInKentucky.com)

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*Hoge Partners, PLLC is the successor to Hoge & Associates, a law practice with a four-decade history of providing legal services throughout Metropolitan Louisville, including Jefferson, Oldham, Hardin and Bullitt Counties.*

### JAMES K. MURPHY

Jim Murphy is the Managing Partner of **Hoge Partners, PLLC**. He began practicing law in Kentucky in 1993. He graduated *magna cum laude* from Washington & Lee University and *cum laude* from the Lewis School of Law at Washington & Lee University.

Prior to joining Hoge & Associates in 2014, Jim's practice with another Louisville firm focused in commercial transactions, real estate and business. Since then, he has refocused his practice on Family Law matters with a special emphasis on associated business and real estate factors. Jim's caseload includes a variety of Family Law matters including domestic violence actions and criminal defense in child support matters as well as processing divorces, child support, child custody and post-divorce litigation. He also has significant appellate experience.

### RUTH J. WILKERSON

Ruth Wilkerson is a Partner of **Hoge Partners, PLLC**. She has been practicing law in Kentucky since 2010. A graduate of Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky and the Appalachian School of Law in Grundy, Virginia, Ruth has a varied legal background which included estate planning, workers compensation, personal injury litigation, employment law, civil rights discrimination and sexual harassment.

Ruth has focused on Family Law matters since joining the firm in 2014. She handles both contested and uncontested divorce actions, post-divorce litigation, modifications of child support and maintenance/alimony, disputed parenting matters such as visitation schedules and primary residence, adoption proceedings, child custody and domestic violence proceedings.

### WILLIAM L. HOGE, III

Bill Hoge has been practicing law in Louisville since 1972 and focused on Family Law for better than half of that period. He retired from active practice in 2017. Bill remains of counsel to the firm of **Hoge Partners, PLLC**, providing advice and guidance to attorneys Jim Murphy and Ruth Wilkerson and handling a limited number of cases. He is still a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and formerly served as the Chair of the Family Law Sections for both the Kentucky Bar Association and the Louisville Bar Association. The majority of Mr. Hoge's legal career has been dedicated to Family Law and being of service to people going through the divorce process in Kentucky, individuals needing assistance with post-divorce matters (child support, custody, visitation, etc.), victims of domestic violence, international parental abductions and others situations relating to Domestic Relations law.

## GUARDIANSHIP/CONSERVATORSHIP DATAPACK

(Please Print)

### PROPOSED GUARDIAN/CONSERVATOR(S):

HUSBAND'S FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

WIFE'S FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

City County State Zip

DAYTIME TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EVENING TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Pager or other contact numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

MARRIED SINCE: \_\_\_\_\_

*THE SPACE BELOW IS FOR OFFICE USE ONLY  
Please complete the remaining pages of this form*

Date of Initial Interview: \_\_\_\_\_ Interviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Engagement Agreement signed? \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Engagement Fee Paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Special Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about us?

- Referral from another attorney: \_\_\_\_\_
- Personal referral from: \_\_\_\_\_
- Our website at [www.DivorceInKentucky.com](http://www.DivorceInKentucky.com)
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**HUSBAND:**

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth (including County): \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Education: \_\_\_\_\_

**WIFE:**

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth (including County): \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Education: \_\_\_\_\_

**CHILD:**

Child's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth (including County): \_\_\_\_\_

Where does the Child attend school or pre-school? \_\_\_\_\_

With whom and where has Child lived?

Birth to age \_\_\_ Years: Lived with \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Years: Lived with \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Years: Lived with \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**{PLEASE USE SEPARATE SHEET IF YOU NEED MORE SPACE TO EXPLAIN CHILD'S PAST LIVING SITUATIONS}**

Does the Child have any special health problems or other special needs? Please explain.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What have you done to "incorporate" this child into your family and household?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Child's pediatrician:

\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_

City

County

State

Zip

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone:

\_\_\_\_\_

Has the Child ever been seen or treated by a psychologist, psychiatrist, therapist or social worker? If so, please identify, including address and telephone number.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Does the Child have an estate, such as real property, personal property, cash, bank accounts, securities, trust funds, Social Security benefits, etc.? If so, please describe below.

<i>Description</i>	<i>Value</i>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

### CHILD'S NATURAL PARENTS:

**Natural Mother:**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home -- \_\_\_\_\_ Work -- \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth (including County): \_\_\_\_\_

Status of Mother:  Deceased  Incarcerated  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Natural Father:**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home -- \_\_\_\_\_ Work -- \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth (including County): \_\_\_\_\_

Status of Mother:  Deceased  Incarcerated  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Natural Parents:**

Legal status of relationship between Natural Mother and Natural Father: \_\_\_\_\_

Are Guardians/Conservators related to either of the Natural Parents of the Child? If so, please explain relationship.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have either or both of the Natural Parents agreed to give up all parental rights and to permit you to adopt this child? Please explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Why are neither of the Natural Parents willing or able to raise this child? Please explain.

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### SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES:

Are there any special circumstances which we need to be aware of in investigating this potential Guardianship/Conservatorship?

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What reasons exist for you being appointed Guardian/Conservator(s) of this Child? Why would such an appointment by the Court be in the *best interest of the child*?

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ATTORNEY'S NOTES

Multiple horizontal lines for handwritten notes.

Date of Interview: \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_

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For use only by potential clients of Hoge Partners, PLLC

CONFIDENTIAL -- Attorney/Client Work Product

Please return completed Datapack to:

**HOG PARTNERS, PLLC**

Suite 400 SOUTH, First Trust Centre

200 South Fifth Street

Louisville, Kentucky 40202

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If you have questions, please call Lois at (502) 583-2005, Ext. 104.