

# HEARING PROCEDURES



New Castle County  
302-255-0544

Kent County  
302-735-1930

Sussex County  
302-856-5775

## **WHERE WILL MY HEARING BE HELD?**

Your case will be heard in a Court of Chancery Courtroom located in the County in which your paperwork was filed.

**New Castle County Courthouse  
500 North King Street 12th Floor  
Wilmington, DE 19801**

**Kent County Courthouse  
38 The Green Dover, DE 19901**

**Sussex County Courthouse  
34 The Circle  
Georgetown, DE 19947**

On the morning of your scheduled hearing date, you should arrive at least fifteen minutes before the time set for the hearing. You are not permitted to bring a cell phone or any other electronic devices, nor any food or drinks, into any of the Courthouses.

## **HOW SHOULD I DRESS?**

You need to dress in clean, appropriate clothing. No hats, flip-flops, halter tops, tank tops, shorts or sunglasses are permitted to be worn in the courtroom.

## **WHO WILL HEAR MY CASE?**

Your petition will be considered for approval by either a Master or a (Vice) Chancellor. There is no jury.

## **WILL MY CASE BE THE ONLY CASE HEARD?**

There will be many cases scheduled to be heard by the Court on the same day and time. However, cases are heard individually to ensure confidentiality. The Court Clerk will direct you where to sit until your case is called. You should then proceed to the podium and address the Judge as "Your Honor."

## **WILL I HAVE TO SPEAK?**

The Judge will have reviewed the documents you have filed before coming into the courtroom. When your case is called, you may be asked some general questions that you should easily be able to answer from the information that you have already stated in your filing. You should respond in a normal voice.

## **DO I NEED TO BRING ANY DOCUMENTS TO COURT?**

The Register in Chancery Clerk will contact you prior to your hearing date if there is anything you need to bring with you.

## **WILL I NEED TO BRING THE DISABLED PERSON WITH ME TO THE COURT HEARING?**

If you wish to bring the disabled person to the hearing, and it would not upset or harm them to do so, please feel free. The disabled person is not required to be present. If the Physician's Affidavit states that it would be detrimental and/or meaningless for the disabled person to be notified of the guardianship proceedings, it would probably be best for the disabled person not to be present.

## **WHAT HAPPENS IF SOMEONE OBJECTS TO THE GUARDIANSHIP PAPERWORK I HAVE FILED?**

If someone appears at the hearing and objects to what you are asking the court to approve, your case will not be approved at that time but will be rescheduled for another day and time. The Court will hear only your case at that time.

## **WHERE DO I GO AFTER I LEAVE THE COURTROOM?**

If the Judge approves your guardianship, the clerk will hand you your paperwork and direct you to take it to the Register in Chancery office where you originally filed the documents. There you will be required to sign additional paperwork for the Court. You will be given a certified copy of the order that was signed by the Judge.