

EXAMINING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Nineteenth Judicial Circuit is seeking physicians and licensed professionals such as psychologists, mental health counselors and social workers, as well as lay persons with specialized knowledge and expertise to become members of guardianship examining committees in any or all of the following counties: Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie Counties.

Examining committees determine whether an individual is incapacitated for purposes of appointment of a guardian by the court. When a petition alleging an individual's incapacity is filed with the court, the court will promptly appoint a 3-member examining committee composed of a psychiatrist or physician and two additional persons such as the professionals and lay persons mentioned above. Each member of the committee will examine the alleged incapacitate person and file a report with the court within 15 days of his or her appointment.

Persons willing and eligible to serve on an examining committee must complete an initial 4-hour training developed under the supervision of the Office of Public and Professional Guardians. In addition, the person must complete 2 hours of continuing education during each 2-year period after the initial training. For more detailed information as to qualifications and duties of members of examining committees, you may refer to section 744.331, Florida Statutes.

Members of an examining committee are compensated for their services based on an established rate structure:

Guardianship Examining Committee Member	Evaluation Flat Rate	Maximum Allowable Travel Rate	Follow-Up Evaluation Flat Rate	Maximum Allowable No Show Rate	Maximum Hourly Testimony Rate, Court Ordered (including wait time, 2-hour cap)
M.D., Ph.D, D.O.	\$325	Mileage Only § 12.061 F.S.	\$250	40% of Evaluation Rate	\$150
ARNP, RN, MSW, LPN, LCSW, LMHC	\$225		\$150		\$100
Qualified Lay Person	\$125		\$75		\$50

If you are interested in becoming a member of an examining committee, please contact Court Administration at (772) 807-4370.