

**Before the  
Guardian Ad Litem Board  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301**

**In the Matter of Karen Griswold  
Complaint No.: 18-03**

**SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

Recognizing that professional misconduct allegations are now pending against me before the New Hampshire Guardian *Ad Litem* Board (the "*Board*") I wish to resolve those allegations by entering into this Settlement Agreement. Accordingly, I agree to the following:

1. On October 5, 2017, the Board received a letter of concern from Judge Susan B. Carbon regarding Respondent;
2. On January 12, 2018, the Board determined the complaint should be sent to Respondent for a response;
3. As a result of settlement negotiations, the Board enters the following Orders:
  - a. Respondent relinquished all rights and privileges to practice as a Board-certified Guardian *Ad Litem* in the State of New Hampshire as of 07/18/2018.
  - b. Should Respondent decide at a future date to apply for certification, she will not apply to renew her license for a period of one year from the date of this Settlement Agreement.
  - c. Respondent has acknowledged this Settlement Agreement is entered in resolution of pending misconduct allegations alleging that she failed to maintain appropriate professional boundaries under Rule 503.02 and 503.06(a)(1).
  - d. Respondent has admitted to no violations of any State statutes, rules, or ethical provisions. She has, however, recognize that her decision not to apply to renew her license and the terms of this Settlement Agreement shall be available to the public.
  - e. Respondent understands that this Settlement Agreement shall be

distributed to all relevant *Guardian Ad Litem* licensing authorities in the same manner as would a final decision-making specific finding of professional misconduct had there been such a finding in her case.

f. Respondent has acknowledged that this Settlement Agreement and her decision not to apply to renew her license shall become a permanent part of her file with the Board and will be maintained by the Board as a public document.

g. Respondent has acknowledged that should she again seek licensure from the Board, she must meet, and shall bear the burden of proving compliance with, all of the standards and prerequisites then required by the Board for new applicants, including all professional character requirements.

h. Respondent shall not seek certification as a *Guardian Ad Litem* in any other state for a period of one year from the date of this Settlement Agreement.

i. Respondent has acknowledged that, while she has not admitted to the pending misconduct allegations and there has been no finding of misconduct by her, in any future licensure application that she may submit to the Board, such allegations and defenses she may have to the allegations may be considered by the Board in determining whether to deny or grant any such application.

j. Respondent voluntarily agrees to this Settlement Agreement and states that no promises or representations have been made to me other than those terms and conditions expressly stated herein.

l. Respondent has had the opportunity to seek and obtain the advice of an attorney of her choosing in connection with my decision to sign this Settlement Agreement.

m. Respondent states she was not under the influence of any drugs or alcohol at the time she signed this Settlement Agreement.

***SIGNATURES APPEAR ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE***

Dated: August 24, 2018

  
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Karen Griswold, Respondent

Dated: August 24, 2018

**THE CRISP LAW FIRM, PLLC**

By:   
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Jack P. Crisp, Jr., Esquire, Attorney for the  
Respondent

New Hampshire Guardian *Ad Litem* Board

Dated: August 11/9/18, 2018

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Representative of the Board