**§1557. Complaint process**

**1. Rules.**  The Supreme Judicial Court shall provide by rule for a complaint process concerning guardians ad litem appointed under Title 18‑C, Title 19‑A and Title 22 that provides for at least the following:

A. The ability of a party to make a complaint before the final judgment as well as after the final judgment is issued; [PL 2013, c. 406, §1 (NEW).]

B. Written instructions on how to make a complaint; [PL 2013, c. 406, §1 (NEW).]

C. Clear criteria for making a complaint; [PL 2013, c. 406, §1 (NEW).]

D. Transparent policies and procedures concerning the investigation of complaints and the provision of information to complainants; [PL 2013, c. 406, §1 (NEW).]

E. A central database to log and track complaints; and [PL 2013, c. 406, §1 (NEW).]

F. Policies and procedures for using complaints and investigations for recommending the removal of a guardian ad litem from a particular case or other consequences or discipline. [PL 2013, c. 406, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. C, §12 (AMD); PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).]

**2. Complaint process.**  The division shall provide written and electronic information to communicate the complaint process to the public and to all parties.

[PL 2013, c. 406, §1 (NEW).]

**3. Minor complaint option.**  The rules may provide for a minor complaint option that authorizes corrective action without the necessity of completing the full complaint and investigatory process.

[PL 2013, c. 406, §1 (NEW).]

**4. Motion to remove.**  The complaint process adopted pursuant to this section is in addition to the right of a party to file a motion to remove the guardian ad litem while the case is pending. The court shall hold a hearing on the motion at the request of the party filing the motion. The motion may be advanced on the docket and receive priority over other cases when the court determines that the interests of justice so require.

[PL 2013, c. 406, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2013, c. 406, §1 (NEW). PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. C, §12 (AMD). PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. F, §1 (AFF). PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature and is current through October 15, 2024
. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.