§5-123. Use of agent by guardian or conservator

1. Delegation consistent with plan and fiduciary duty. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, a guardian or conservator may delegate a power to an agent that a prudent guardian or conservator of comparable skills could prudently delegate under the circumstances if the delegation is consistent with the guardian's or conservator's plan and fiduciary duty.

[PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).]

2. Delegating a power. In delegating a power under subsection 1, the guardian or conservator shall exercise reasonable care, skill and caution in:

A. Selecting the agent; [PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).]

B. Establishing the scope and terms of the agent's work in accordance with the guardian's or conservator's plan; [PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).]

C. Monitoring the agent's performance and compliance with the delegation; and [PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).]

D. Redressing action or inaction of the agent that would constitute a breach of the guardian's or conservator's duties if performed by the guardian or conservator. [PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).]

[PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).]

3. Delegation limitation. A guardian or conservator may not delegate all powers to an agent. [PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).]

4. Agent performing a delegated power. In performing a power delegated under this section, an agent shall:

A. Exercise reasonable care to comply with the terms of the delegation and use reasonable care in the performance of the delegated power; and [PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).]

B. If the agent has been delegated the power to make a decision on behalf of the individual subject to guardianship or conservatorship, in making the decision use the same decision-making standard the guardian or conservator would be required to use in making the decision. [PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).]

[PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).]

5. Jurisdiction of court. By accepting a delegation of a power from a guardian or conservator under this section, an agent submits to the jurisdiction of the courts of this State in an action involving the agent's performance as agent.

[PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).]

6. Liability. A guardian or conservator that delegates and monitors a power in compliance with this section is not liable for the decisions or actions of the agent.

[PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 (NEW). 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.