

The Roles of Guardians, Supporters, and Advocates

	Individual	Guardian of the Person	Guardian of the Estate	Supporter (under supported decision-making)	Advocate (under Never Alone Act)
Summary of role	Person at the center of everyone else's efforts	Provide consent and oversee placement and services	Manages finances and property	Support individual to understand, communicate, and implement their own decisions	Access to the individual on-site and through tele-communication
Makes decisions for individual?	If not under guardianship, or if issue is outside of guardianship	For issues within the scope of the guardianship	For issues within the scope of the guardianship (financial)	No	No
Has access to individual and facility?		Yes	Yes	Yes; facility's usual visitation policies apply	Yes; at all times, even during public health emergency, health order, or quarantine
Access to information and documents?	Yes	Yes	Yes, as needed for scope of duties	With individual's consent	With individual's consent
Attends team meetings?	Yes	Yes	If needed (financial)	At individual's request	At individual's request
Who selects?		Probate court, only if individual is incompetent	Probate court, only if individual is incompetent	Individual, if individual is of sound mind	Individual in congregate care setting, or may default to guardian or attorney-in-fact under healthcare power of attorney unless chosen person is ineligible May be same person as guardian or supporter
Who removes?		Probate court	Probate court	Individual	Individual