

**17—22.6(231E,633) Conflict of interest.** A conflict of interest arises when the public guardian has any personal or agency interest that is or may be perceived as self-serving or adverse to the position or best interest of the consumer. When assigning a consumer to a public guardian, all reasonable efforts shall be made to avoid a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest.

**22.6(1)** The assigned public guardian shall not:

- a.* Provide direct services to the consumer receiving public guardianship services;
- b.* Have an affiliation with or financial interest in the consumer's estate;
- c.* Employ friends or family to provide services to the consumer for a fee; or
- d.* Solicit or accept incentives from service providers.

**22.6(2)** The public guardian shall be independent from all service providers, thus ensuring that the public guardian remains free to challenge inappropriate or poorly delivered services and to advocate on behalf of the consumer.

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