

**441—231.6(231E,633) Conflict of interest.** A conflict of interest arises when the state office or a local office serving a protected person or client has any personal or departmental interest that is or may be perceived as self-serving or adverse to the position or best interest of the protected person or client. When assigning the state office or a local office, all reasonable efforts shall be made to avoid a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest.

**231.6(1)** The assigned state office or local office shall not:

- a.* Provide direct services to the protected person or client receiving public guardianship services;
- b.* Enter into any transaction, take any action, or make any decision related to the protected person's or client's finances that would benefit the state office or a local office; any of the state office's or a local office's employees, volunteers, or contractors; or any relatives of any of the state office's or a local office's employees, volunteers, or contractors;
- c.* Employ friends or family to provide services to the protected person or client for a fee; or
- d.* Solicit or accept incentives from service providers.

**231.6(2)** The state office or a local office 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 protected person or client.

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