

COLORADO	Legal Authority
<p><b>1. General Duties:</b>  <i>Timely appointment, mandatory or discretionary, attorney or lay person, represent child's interests, undertake basic obligations, address conflict situations, address special needs and disabilities, and accommodate client preferences.</i></p>	GENERAL DUTIES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE CHILD'S LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE
	<p>- Guardian ad Litem (GAL) means a person appointed by a court to act in the best interests of a child involved in a proceeding under title 19...and who, if appointed to represent the child in a dependency or neglect proceeding...shall be an attorney-at-law licensed to practice in Colorado. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 13-91-103(4)</a>.</p> <p>All attorneys appointed as a GAL...shall be subject to all of the rules and standards of the legal profession, including the additional responsibilities set forth by <a href="#">Colorado Rule of Professional Conduct 1.14</a>. <a href="#">Colo. Chief Justice Directive 04-06(V)(B)</a>.</p> <p>- The court shall appoint a GAL for the child in all dependency or neglect cases. The GAL shall have the right to participate in all dependency or neglect proceedings as a party. The appointment of the GAL shall continue until court's jurisdiction is terminated. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-111(1), (3), (4)(a)</a>; <a href="#">Chief Justice Directive 04-06(III)(A)</a>.</p> <p>- Upon the filing of a petition under alleging abuse or neglect of a minor child, the court shall appoint a GAL. Nothing in this section shall limit the power of the court to appoint a GAL prior to the filing of a petition for good cause. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-3-203(1)</a>.</p> <p>- GAL shall comply w/ provisions in chief justice directive 97-02, concerning appointment of GALs and other representatives and of counsel for children in C.R.S. ... 19 (dependency and neglect only), ... and any subsequent chief justice directive or other practice standards established by rule or directive of the chief justice pursuant to <a href="#">C.R.S. § 13-91-105</a> concerning the duties or responsibilities of GALs in legal matters affecting children. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-111(6)</a>.</p> <p>- The court may appoint a CASA volunteer...if the court finds that the appointment would be in the best interests of the child. The court may direct the manner in which a CASA volunteer and any guardian ad litem appointed in a case shall collaborate. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-111.5</a>.</p> <p>- The GAL shall cooperate with any CASA appointed. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-111(5)</a>.</p> <p>- CASA means a trained volunteer appointed by the court pursuant...to title 19...in a judicial district to aid the court by providing independent and objective information, as directed by the court, regarding children involved in actions brought pursuant to...title 19. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 13-91-103 (3)</a>.</p> <p>- Any judge or magistrate may appoint a CASA volunteer in any action brought pursuant to...title 19, when, in the opinion of the judge or magistrate, a child who may be affected by such action requires services that a CASA volunteer can provide. At the discretion of the judge or magistrate, a CASA volunteer may be a party to the action if so provided for in the memorandum of understanding. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-206(1)</a>.</p> <p>- A CASA volunteer shall be appointed at the earliest stages of an action pursuant to a court order that gives him or her the authority to review all relevant documents and interview all parties involved in the case, including parents, other parties in interest, and any other persons having significant information relating to the child. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-206(2)</a>.</p> <p>- The CASA volunteer's appointment shall conclude: (a) when the court's jurisdiction over the child terminates; or (b) upon discharge by the court on its own motion or at the request of the program director of the CASA program to which the CASA volunteer is assigned. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-206(3)</a>.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A CASA volunteer shall not have any association that creates a conflict of interest with his or her duties, be related to any party or attorney involved in a case, be employed in a position that could result in a conflict of interest or give rise to the appearance of a conflict, or use the CASA volunteer position to seek or accept gifts or special privileges. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-207(1)(b)-(e)</a>.</li> <li>- Unless otherwise ordered by the court, the CASA volunteer...shall make recommendations consistent with the best interests of the child. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-208(2)</a>.</li> <li>- The CASA volunteer shall assure that the child's best interests are being advocated at every stage of the case. <a href="#">C.R.S. 19-1-208(3)</a>.</li> <li>- When a client's capacity to make adequately considered decisions in connection with a representation is diminished, whether because of minority, mental impairment or for some other reason, the lawyer shall, as far as reasonably possible, maintain a normal client-lawyer relationship with the client. <a href="#">Col. R. Prof. Conduct 1.14(a)</a>.</li> <li>- When the lawyer reasonably believes that the client has diminished capacity, is at risk of substantial physical, financial or other harm unless action is taken and cannot adequately act in the client's own interest, the lawyer may take reasonably necessary protective action, including consulting with individuals or entities that have the ability to take action to protect the client and, in appropriate cases, seeking the appointment of a guardian ad litem, conservator or guardian. <a href="#">Col. R. Prof. Conduct 1.14(b)</a>.</li> <li>- Information relating to the representation of a client with diminished capacity is protected by Rule 1.6. When taking protective action pursuant to paragraph (b), the lawyer is impliedly authorized under Rule 1.6(a) to reveal information about the client, but only to the extent reasonably necessary to protect the client's interests. <a href="#">Col. R. Prof. Conduct 1.14(c)</a>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Out of Court - Actions to be Taken:</b>  <i>Meet with child, undertake an investigation, provide advice and counseling, file pleadings, request services, address special needs, negotiate settlements</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The GAL shall be charged in general with the representation of the child's interests....In addition, the GAL, if in the best interest of the child, shall seek to assure that reasonable efforts are being made to prevent unnecessary placement of the child out of the home and facilitate reunification of the child with the child's family or, if reunification is not possible, to find another safe and permanent living arrangement for the child. In determining whether said reasonable efforts are made with respect to a child, and in making such reasonable efforts, the child's health and safety shall be the paramount concern. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-3-203(3)</a>.</li> <li>- The attorney appointed shall diligently take steps that s/he deems necessary to protect the interest of the person whom s/he was appointed to represent, under the terms and conditions of the order of appointment, including any specific duties set forth in that or any subsequent order. If the appointee finds it necessary and in the best interests of the child(ren), the appointee may request that the court expand the terms of the appointment and scope of the duties. <a href="#">Colo. Chief Justice Directive 04-06(V)(C)</a>.</li> <li>- A- The GAL shall be charged in general with the representation of the child's interests. To that end, the GAL shall make such further investigations as the GAL deems necessary to ascertain the facts and shall talk with or observe the child involved, examine and cross-examine witnesses in both the adjudicatory and dispositional hearings, introduce and examine the GAL's own witnesses, make recommendations to the court concerning the child's welfare, appeal matters to the court of appeals or the supreme court, and participate further in the proceedings to the degree necessary to adequately represent the child. In addition, the GAL, if in the best interest of the child, shall seek to assure that reasonable efforts are being made to prevent unnecessary placement of the child out of the home and facilitate reunification of the child with the child's family or, if reunification is not possible, to find another safe and permanent living arrangement for the child. In determining whether said reasonable efforts are made with respect to a child, and in making such reasonable efforts, the child's health and safety shall be the paramount concern. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-3-203(3)</a>.</li> </ul>

GAL in a dependency and neglect case shall specifically:

(1) ...

(2) at the court's direction and in compliance with Section 19-3-606(1), 6 C.R.S. (2003), file written or oral report(s) with the court and all other parties;

(3) take actions within the scope of his or her statutory authority and ethical obligations necessary to represent the best interests of the child (*commentary: the GAL has the right to and should actively participate and be included in all aspects of litigation including but not limited to discovery, motions practice, settlement negotiations, court appearances, jury selection, presentation of evidence and appeals, except as limited by applicable law*);

(4) conduct an independent investigation in a timely manner which shall include at a minimum: (a) personally interviewing the child (if age-appropriate) and meeting with and observing the child in his or her placement as soon as is reasonable, but, in no event, later than 30 days following the GAL's appointment;(b) personally meeting with and observe the child(ren)'s interaction with the parents, proposed custodians or foster parents including kinship care providers (*commentary: The GAL shall meet with the foster parent, kinship care provider or other custodian who is providing ongoing care for the child and observe the child in that home. This requirement neither mandates nor is fulfilled by a GAL's meeting with the care provider(s) and observing the child(ren) in a temporary intake placement service, respite care or juvenile detention holding facility, unless that is the only opportunity to observe the child(ren).*);

(c) reviewing court files and relevant records, reports and documents; (d) Interviewing, with the consent of counsel, respondent parents;(e) Interviewing other people involved in the child's life, including: foster parents; caseworkers; CASA volunteers; relatives; and school personnel, therapists and any other persons or professionals necessary to assess and serve the child's best interests; (f) Confirm that the county department's investigation has included a search for any prospective kinship, placement and/or adoption or potential tribal affiliation, or personally conduct such investigation, in case attempts to reunify fail. This part of the investigation should be conducted in the initial stages of the case; (g) When appropriate, visiting the home from which the child was removed. (*Commentary on items 4a - g: The initial investigation sets the groundwork for the entire Dependency and Neglect case, and an effective initial investigation is critical to serving a child's best interest and advancing permanency for a child. An effective initial investigation allows the GAL to make recommendations early on in a case that will: implement services that will advance the goals of the case and the best interests of the child(ren) with the least delay possible; reduce the risk of harm that involvement in the Dependency and Neglect system may present to the well being of the child(ren); reduce the risk of disruption in the child's placement and potential harm from the child from such disruption; and preserve relationships significant to the child(ren), such as sibling relationships. Hence, it is expected that the initial duties described in this subsection shall be completed within 45 days of the GAL's appointment, with the exception of the in placement interview/observation, which shall occur within 30 days. Duties (e) and(f) may be performed, under the supervision of the appointee, by a qualified person other than the appointee.*)

(5) Continue to perform an ongoing investigation as is necessary to represent the best interest of the child for the duration of the case unless relieved of such duty by the court. Said investigation shall include, but shall not be limited to: (a) If the child's placement is changed, the GAL shall personally meet with and observe the child in each new home or placement of the child, as soon as is practicable after the child's entry into the placement. (*Commentary: Continuing contact and ongoing investigation constitute important components of the GAL's role. Additionally, because each disruption in the child(ren)'s placement presents new risks of harm and is potentially detrimental to the child(ren)'s emotional and psychological well being, it is critical that the GAL meet with and observe the child(ren) in each new placement to assess the appropriateness, risks and potential permanency of that placement, as part of the GAL's ongoing investigation. This in-placement meeting/observation shall ideally occur no later than 30 days after the child's entry into the new placement. When circumstances make it impracticable for a GAL to visit a child within 30 days of a child's entry into a new placement, the GAL may send a properly trained representative to visit the child in the placement within thirty days of the placement, the GAL to follow up with a visit within a reasonable time thereafter.*); (b) Maintaining contact and ongoing communication with the child, foster parents, caseworker, CASA and any other parties, persons or professionals necessary to ensure that the child's best interest are continually met; (c) Other applicable duties listed above in (V)(C)(3).

(6) In cases in which the parents or child are living or placed more than 100 miles outside of the jurisdiction of the court, the requirements

	<p>to personally meet with and interview the person or child are waived. However, to the extent possible, the appointee shall endeavor to see the child in his or her extended placement and the OCR will pay reasonable costs associated with meeting these obligations.</p> <p>(7) All GALs paid by the state shall submit a standard affidavit of compliance to the OCR by May 30 of each year for appointments made in the previous contract year. For any cases in which the attorney has not complied with the above requirements, a standard exception form shall be attached to the affidavit. The standard affidavit of compliance and exception form shall be developed by the OCR and made available to all GALs and child and family investigators. <a href="#">Colo. Chief Justice Directive 04-06(V)(D)</a>.</p> <p>- Upon appointment, a CASA volunteer may have the duty to: (a) conduct an independent investigation regarding the best interests of the child that will provide factual information to the court regarding the child and the child's family. The investigation shall include interviews with and observations of the child, interviews with other appropriate individuals, and the review of relevant records and reports; (b) determine whether an appropriate treatment plan has been created for the child, whether appropriate services are being provided to the child and family, and whether the treatment plan is progressing in a timely manner. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-208(1)</a>.</p> <p>- CASA volunteer shall monitor the case...to assure that the child's essential needs are being met and that the terms of the court's orders have been fulfilled in an appropriate and timely manner. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-208(4)</a>.</p>
<p><b>3. In Court - Active Participation in Hearings:</b> <i>Appear in court, explain proceedings to client, present evidence, ensure child is present, expand scope of representation into other needed areas, and undertake certain obligations post-disposition.</i></p>	<p>- A GAL in a dependency and neglect case shall specifically:</p> <p>(1) Attend all court hearings and provide accurate and current information directly to the court (in exceptional circumstances another qualified attorney who has sufficient knowledge of the issues and status of the case may substitute for some hearings, with permission of the court.);</p> <p>(2)...</p> <p>(3) take actions within the scope of his or her statutory authority and ethical obligations necessary to represent the best interests of the child (<i>commentary: the GAL has the right to and should actively participate and be included in all aspects of litigation including but not limited to discovery, motions practice, settlement negotiations, court appearances, jury selection, presentation of evidence and appeals, except as limited by applicable law</i>);</p> <p>- The GAL shall be charged in general with the representation of the child's interests. To that end, the GAL shall make such further investigations as the GAL deems necessary to ascertain the facts and shall talk with or observe the child involved, examine and cross-examine witnesses in both the adjudicatory and dispositional hearings, introduce and examine the GAL's own witnesses, make recommendations to the court concerning the child's welfare, appeal matters to the court of appeals or the supreme court, and participate further in the proceedings to the degree necessary to adequately represent the child. In addition, the GAL, if in the best interest of the child, shall seek to assure that reasonable efforts are being made to prevent unnecessary placement of the child out of the home and facilitate reunification of the child with the child's family or, if reunification is not possible, to find another safe and permanent living arrangement for the child. In determining whether said reasonable efforts are made with respect to a child, and in making such reasonable efforts, the child's health and safety shall be the paramount concern. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-3-203(3)</a>.</p> <p>- Unless otherwise ordered by the court, the CASA volunteer, with the support and supervision of the CASA program staff, shall make recommendations consistent with the best interests of the child regarding placement, visitation, and appropriate services for the child and family and shall prepare a written report to be distributed to the parties of the action. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-208(2)</a>.</p> <p>- CASA volunteer shall assure that the child's best interests are being advocated at every stage of the case and prepare written reports to be distributed to the parties of the action. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-208(3)</a>.</p>

	- CASA volunteer may be called as a witness and may request of the court the opportunity to appear as a witness. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-208(5)</a> .
<b>4. <i>Post-Hearing:</i></b> <i>Review courts order, communicate order to child, and monitor implementation of orders.</i>	In addition, the GAL, if in the best interest of the child, shall seek to assure that reasonable efforts are being made to prevent unnecessary placement of the child out of the home and facilitate reunification of the child with the child's family or, if reunification is not possible, to find another safe and permanent living arrangement for the child. In determining whether said reasonable efforts are made with respect to a child, and in making such reasonable efforts, the child's health and safety shall be the paramount concern. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-3-203(3)</a> .
<b>5. <i>Appellate Advocacy:</i></b> <i>Decision to appeal, withdrawal, participation in appeal, conclusion by appeal.</i>	GAL shall be charged in general with the representation of the child's interests. To that end, the GAL shall ...appeal matters to the court of appeals or the supreme court, and participate further in the proceedings to the degree necessary to adequately represent the child. ... <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-3-203(3)</a> .
<b>6. <i>Cessation of Representation:</i></b> <i>Contacts post representation, if any.</i>	<i>No explicit legal authority or requirement.</i>
	<b>Organizational and Administrative Supports Provided the Representative</b>
<b>7. <i>General Representation Rules:</i></b> <i>Administrative structure is clear for appointment, support and accountability of the CR. The child's representative is independent from the court</i>	Office of Child's Representative provides a statewide administrative structure for CR.  <i>Office of the Child's Representative:</i> - In addition to any responsibilities assigned to it by the chief justice, the office of the child's representative shall enhance the provision of GAL services in Colorado by:...(VI) Establishing fair and realistic state rates by which to compensate state-appointed guardians ad litem, which will take into consideration the caseload limitations placed on guardians ad litem and which will be sufficient to attract and retain high-quality, experienced attorneys to serve as guardians ad litem; (VII) Seeking to enhance existing funding sources for the provision of high-quality guardian ad litem services in Colorado; (VIII) Studying the availability of or developing new funding sources for the provision of guardian ad litem services in Colorado, including but not limited to, long-term pooling of funds programs; (IX) Accepting grants, gifts, donations, and other nongovernmental contributions to be used to fund the work of the office of the child's representative relating to guardians ad litem. Such grants, gifts, donations, and other nongovernmental contributions shall be credited to the guardian ad litem fund, created in section 13-91-106(1). Moneys in such fund shall be subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly for the purposes of this paragraph (a) and for the purposes of enhancing the provision of guardian ad litem services in Colorado; and (X) Effective July 1, 2001, allocating moneys appropriated to the office of the child's representative in the state judicial department for the provision of GAL services. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 13-91-105(1)(a)(VI)-(X)</a> .
<b>8. <i>Lawyer Training:</i></b>	



*Child representative trained, on-going training provided, new attorneys provided senior lawyer mentorship.*

- A GAL who is appointed to represent a child in a dependency or neglect proceeding shall be an attorney-at-law licensed to practice in Colorado. [C.R.S. § 13-91-103\(4\)](#).

- Attorneys appointed as GALs...shall possess the knowledge, expertise, and training necessary to perform the court appointment. In addition, GALs...shall obtain 10 hours of the required CLE courses or any other modified training requirements established by subsequent Chief Justice Directive practice standards, rule, or statute that are relevant to the appointment and that enhance the attorney's knowledge of the issues in best interest representation. These requirements should be met prior to attorney's first appointment and per legal education reporting period. The attorney shall provide the OCR with proof of compliance with this requirement with his/her application to provide attorney services or contract renewal for the OCR. [Col. Chief Justice Directive 04-06\(V\)\(A\)\(1\), \(2\)](#).

- In addition to any responsibilities assigned to it by the chief justice, the office of the child's representative shall enhance the provision of GAL services in Colorado by: (I) Ensuring the provision and availability of high-quality, accessible training throughout the state for persons seeking to serve as guardians ad litem as well as to judges and magistrates who regularly hear matters involving children and families; (II) Making recommendations to the chief justice concerning the establishment, by rule or chief justice directive, of the minimum training requirements that an attorney seeking to serve as a guardian ad litem shall meet... [C.R.S. § 13-91-105\(1\)\(a\)\(I\)-\(II\)](#).

Making recommendations to the chief justice concerning the establishment, by rule or chief justice directive, of standards to which attorneys serving as guardians ad litem shall be held, including but not limited to minimum practice standards, which standards shall include: (A) Incorporation of the federal guidelines for persons serving as guardians ad litem as set forth in the federal department of health and human services' "Adoption 2002" guidelines and incorporation of the guidelines for guardians ad litem adopted by the Colorado bar association in 1993;(B) Minimum duties of guardians ad litem in representing children involved in judicial proceedings;(C) Minimum responsibilities of guardians ad litem in representing children involved in judicial proceedings... (IV) Overseeing the practice of guardians ad litem to ensure compliance with all relevant statutes, orders, rules, directives, policies, and procedures;(V) Working cooperatively with the chief judge in each judicial district or group of judicial districts to jointly establish a local body to oversee the provision of guardian ad litem services in that judicial district or districts, which oversight bodies would operate and report directly to the director concerning the practice of guardians ad litem in that judicial district or districts pursuant to oversight procedures established by the office of the child's representative. [C.R.S. § 13-91-105\(1\)\(a\)\(III\)\(A\)-\(C\), \(IV\)-\(V\)](#). (V) Working cooperatively with the contract entity to ensure the provision and availability of high-quality, accessible training in locations of the state where CASA programs have been established for the benefit of persons seeking to serve as CASA volunteers as well as for judges and magistrates who regularly hear matters involving children and families. [C.R.S. § 13-91-105\(1\)\(b\)\(V\)](#).

- The Office of the Child's Representative (OCR) shall maintain and provide to the courts, on an ongoing basis, a list of qualified attorneys to whom appointments may be given. The courts shall appoint from this list. It is within OCR's sole discretion to determine which attorneys are placed on the appointment list. A court is not required to use all attorneys on the list but only those it chooses to appoint. [Chief Justice Directive 04-06\(II\)\(B\)](#).

- In addition to any responsibilities assigned to it by the chief justice, the office of the child's representative shall enhance the provision of GAL services in Colorado by: ... (II) Seeking to enhance existing funding sources and to develop private-public partnership funding for the provision of high-quality, volunteer local CASA programs in each judicial district or in adjacent judicial districts; (III) Studying the availability of or developing new funding sources for CASA programs, including but not limited to long-term pooling of funds programs; (IV) Effective July 1, 2001, allocating moneys appropriated to the state judicial department for CASA programs to local CASA programs based upon recommendations made by the contract entity. [C.R.S. § 13-91-105\(1\)\(b\)\(II\)-\(IV\)..\(III\)](#).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All CASA volunteers shall participate fully in pre-service training, including instruction on recognizing child abuse and neglect, cultural awareness, child development, the juvenile court process, permanency planning, volunteer roles and responsibilities, advocacy, information gathering, and documentation. CASA volunteers shall be required to participate in observation of court proceedings prior to appointment. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-204(1)</a>.</li> <li>- All CASA volunteers shall receive a training manual that shall include guidelines for their service and duties. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-204(2)</a>.</li> <li>- The minimum qualifications for any prospective CASA volunteer are that he or she shall: (a) be at least age 21 and have demonstrated an interest in children and their welfare; (b) be willing to commit to the court for a minimum of 1 year of service to a child; (c) complete an application, including providing background information [(1) criminal history and motor vehicle record; (2) authorization for CASA program to obtain records and reports of child abuse or neglect; (3) at least three references who can address character, judgment and suitability for position; (4) records from other jurisdictions in which he or she resided during year prior to application if residence in Colorado was less than 12 months]; (c) participate in a screening interview; (d) participate in the required training; (e) meet other qualifications as determined by the CASA program director and the chief judge of the judicial district. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-205(2)-(3)</a>.</li> <li>- Each CASA program shall provide a minimum of 10 hours of in-service training per year to CASA volunteers. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-204(3)</a>.</li> <li>- Each CASA program shall adopt regulations consistent with subsection (2) of this section and with the Colorado CASA association and national CASA association guidelines governing qualifications and selection of CASA volunteers. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-205(1)</a>.</li> <li>- One of the minimum qualifications for any prospective CASA volunteer is that he or she shall participate in the required training. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-205(2)(d)</a>.</li> <li>- In addition to any responsibilities assigned to it by the chief justice, the office of the child's representative shall work cooperatively with the judicial districts to establish pilot programs designed to enhance the quality of child representatives at the local level, and develop measurement instruments designed to assess and document the effectiveness of various models of representation and the outcomes achieved by representatives and advocates for children, including collaborative models with local CASA programs. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 13-91-105(1)(e)-(f)</a>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>9. Lawyer Compensation:</b>  <i>Adequate and timely compensation, reimbursement provided expenses.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- GAL Fund created in the State treasury. The money in the fund shall be subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly to the State Judicial Department for allocation to the Office of the Child's Representative for the provision of GAL services in Colorado. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 13-91-106(1)</a>.</li> <li>- In addition to any responsibilities assigned to it by the chief justice, the office of the child's representative shall enhance the provision of GAL services in Colorado by: ...<b>(III)</b> Making recommendations to the chief justice concerning the establishment, by rule or chief justice directive, of standards to which attorneys serving as guardians ad litem shall be held, including but not limited to minimum practice standards, which standards shall include...<b>(D)</b> A determination of an appropriate maximum-caseload limitation for persons serving as guardians ad litem; ...<b>(VI)</b> Establishing fair and realistic state rates by which to compensate state-appointed guardians ad litem, which will take into consideration the caseload limitations placed on guardians ad litem and which will be sufficient to attract and retain high-quality, experienced attorneys to serve as guardians ad litem. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 13-91-105(1)(a)(III)(A)-(C), (VI)</a>.</li> <li>- In addition to any responsibilities assigned to it by the chief justice, the office of the child's representative shall enhance the CASA</li> </ul>

	<p>program in Colorado by...(VII) Accepting grants, gifts, donations, and other nongovernmental contributions to be used to fund the work of the office of the child's representative relating to CASA programs. Such grants, gifts, donations, and other nongovernmental contributions shall be credited to the court-appointed special advocate (CASA) fund created in section 13-91-106(2). Moneys in such fund shall be subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly for the purposes of this paragraph (b) and for the purposes of the local CASA programs. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 13-91-105(1)(b)(VII)</a>.</p> <p>- An indigency determination is not required for state payment of GAL services [in dependency cases]. <a href="#">Chief Justice Directive 04-06(IV)(1)</a></p> <p>- A CASA volunteer shall not accept any compensation for the duties and responsibilities of his or her appointment. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 19-1-207(1)(a)</a>.</p> <p>- CASA Fund created in State treasury. The money in the fund shall be subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly to the State Judicial Department for allocation to the Office of the Child's Representative for the purposes of funding the CASA programs established in each judicial district or in adjacent judicial districts, and the work of the Office of the Child's Representative relating to the enhancement of CASA programs. <a href="#">C.R.S. § 13-91-106(2)</a>.</p>
<p><b>10. Caseload Levels:</b>  <i>Caseloads are of a manageable size.</i></p>	<p><i>No explicit legal authority or requirement.</i></p>