

RJ Sandefur

Via Electronic Mail: rjs59@hotmail.com

**RE: Complaint DJ# 204-17-116**

Dear Mr. Sandefur,

As you know, the Department of Justice (the Department) investigated your complaint alleging that the Florida Statewide Guardian ad Litem Office (GAL) violated title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). In particular, the GAL would not allow you to serve as a guardian ad litem because you are blind.

In response to our investigation, the GAL adopted a nondiscrimination policy, which includes provisions to ensure effective communication with individuals with disabilities. In addition, the GAL appointed an ADA Coordinator, adopted a formal process through which the ADA Coordinator will handle complaints, and included a nondiscrimination statement and information regarding how to request reasonable modifications and auxiliary aids in their application materials. Finally, the GAL created ADA training materials for new and prospective employees and volunteers, and posted a notice to publicize the new nondiscrimination policy and procedures to members of the public.

Based upon the foregoing evidence, we have determined that the GAL has remedied the alleged violations of the ADA. Therefore, we are writing to notify you that we are closing our investigation of the GAL as of the date of this letter. Please note that if you are dissatisfied with our determination, you may be entitled to file a private complaint in federal district court under the ADA or pursue any relief that may be available under federal, state, or local law.

Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, we may be required to release this letter as well as other correspondence and records related to the complaint in response to a request from a third party.  If we receive such a request, we will safeguard, to the extent permitted by FOIA, the release of information that constitutes an unwarranted invasion of privacy.

Please be advised that this letter relates only to the specific issues raised in complaint DJ# 204-17-116 and does not express any view with respect to ADA compliance on any other matters outside the scope of that specific complaint. Should you wish to make any further allegations regarding ADA violations, you will need to file a new complaint. The Department’s ADA website (www.ada.gov) contains useful information, including instructions for filing ADA complaints. Please note that you may file a claim by e-mailing ada.complaint@usdoj.gov.

If you have any questions, you may contact us at 202-307-2121 (voice/TTY).

Sincerely,

Alison Yewdell, Contractor- Investigator Naomi Milton, Supervisory Attorney

Disability Rights Section Disability Rights Section