



## Center for Guardianship Certification

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### **Jean Krahn Named Board of Trustees President** ***2011 CGC Leadership Announced***

HARRISBURG, PA- M. Jean Krahn, NMG, of Manhattan, KS, has been named 2011 President of the Board of Trustees for the Center for Guardianship Certification (CGC). In her new role, she will provide guidance to the CGC leadership team as they continue to move the organization forward strategically. Krahn is certified as a National Master Guardian through CGC.

For the past 26 years, Krahn has served as the Executive Director of the Kansas Guardianship Program (KGP). On a statewide basis, the KGP recruits, trains and monitors volunteers who are appointed to serve as guardians and conservators for program eligible adults. This program serves more than 1400 wards or conservatees through the efforts of approximately 820 volunteers. In addition to serving as the CGC Board of Trustees President this year, she also serves on the board of directors for Kansas Advocates for Better Care, a non-profit advocacy organization assisting long-term care residents and their families.

“As I start my year as CGC’s President, I have to remember that the role guardianship plays in today’s society continues to evolve and change with the growing needs of those who depend on us. Our challenge is to become involved—to be explorers, innovators, pacesetters and builders in the field of guardianship—to create even better practices and services that promote dignity and respect for the people we serve,” stated Krahn. “I am reminded of the Kansas seal’s motto ‘Ad astra per aspera,’ Latin for ‘to the stars through difficulty,’ and it gives inspiration. Guardianship certification is a critical component of having guardianship viewed as a profession that aims ‘to the stars.’ ”

Krahn and her team have several major initiatives on their to-do list for 2011, including:

- A Task Force has been formed to consider whether CGC should include criminal background checks, credit checks and credential verification to its certification process for applicants from states without such requirements.

- A Task Force is looking at the accreditation of CGC itself, and, more specifically, the NCG and NMG certifications. The Board has agreed that accreditation would provide credibility to our processes necessary for CGC to remain viable as guardianship credentials become increasingly scrutinized by state governments and national entities like the GAO. A self-study process will be implemented in 2011 to determine how we move forward.
- CGC took a significant step this past year in moving to offering examinations electronically. In 2011, the organization will be evaluating that process and making recommendations for improvement.
- The Public Policy Committee is committed to working toward mandatory certification in all 50 states. To be successful in this endeavor, CGC will need assistance at a grass-roots level in every state.

The rest of the 2011 CGC Board of Trustees includes:

President-Elect: Fred Floreth, Esq., NMG, Litchfield, IL

Secretary: Michelle Kenney, NCG, Florida Elder Law Concepts, P.A., Boca Raton, FL

Treasurer: Neil Newstein, LCSW, NCG, AJFCS, West Palm Beach, FL

Immediate Past President: Colleen Colton, NMG, Guardianship Services, Inc., Fort Worth, TX

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Trustee: Catherine Robbins, NMG, Mohave County Public Fiduciary, Kingman, AZ

Trustee: Richard Vanderheiden, Esq., NCG, Scottsdale, AZ

NGA Representative – ex-officio member: Julia Nack, NMG, Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging,  
Columbus, OH

CGC was founded in 1997 by the National Guardianship Association and is headquartered in Harrisburg, PA. CGC has more than 1,858 National Certified Guardians and 59 National Master Guardians. For more information about national guardianship certification or to find a guardian, conservator or fiduciary in your area, please visit

[www.guardianshipcert.org](http://www.guardianshipcert.org).

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*(Photo of Krabn available upon request.)*