

On February 25, 2015, seven months after filing her final account, the guardian finally provided the court with itemized bills for guardian and counsel fees, which the court has now had an opportunity to review in detail. (Index #48) Having had this opportunity, the concern that the court has had all along is heightened. Most troubling perhaps is the fact that on June 20, 2014, the guardian received a payment of \$4800.05 in guardianship fees. As previously noted, the account filed with the court on July 23, 2014, covering the time period ending July 1, 2014, represented under oath as being "true and accurate," failed to include these fees paid to the guardian. The subsequent request for additional fees similarly failed to inform the court that the fees taken totaled \$6,993.21, not the \$2,193.16 which had been reported as total fees. Not only did the court not approve the \$4,800.05 in fees before they were received, the fees were not reported. And the request for the additional \$4,641.19 in fees was made when the record reflected that total fees to date had been \$2,193.16. This failure to disclose violates court rules, Prob. Div. R. 88 (fiduciary fees subject to court approval); Prob. Div. R. 108 (compensation of fiduciaries shall be disclosed) as well as several standards of the *National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice*, with which all professional guardians are required to comply. See Probate Court Administrative Order 16. These standards include *National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice*, NGA Standard 17, VII, "[t]he guardian shall act in a manner above reproach..."; NGA Standard 18, VIII, "[a]ll accountings must contain sufficient information to clearly describe all significant transactions affecting administration during the accounting period. All accountings must be complete, accurate, and understandable."; and NGA Standard 22 III; "[a]ll fees related to the duties of the guardianship must be reviewed