

# State of Michigan



MELANIE D. STANTON  
JUDGE OF PROBATE

AMANDA FLOWERS  
PROBATE REGISTER

## Grand Traverse County Probate Court

Robert P. Griffin Hall of Justice

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### GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY PROBATE COURT MINOR CONSERVATORSHIP EXPENDITURE POLICY

The general principle followed by this Court is that its responsibility is to preserve the minor's money until the minor attains the age of 18. The money under a minor conservatorship is not the family's money or the parent's money. It is the child's money. Parents, by law, have the obligation to support their child from their own funds, and parents may not reimburse themselves for money spent on supporting that child, or use the child's funds as a source for "loans".

This policy applies to any Petition and Order to Use Funds from a minor's restricted bank account. If the funds are restricted, the Court will grant authority to withdraw restricted funds in accordance with this written policy, and requests may require a Court hearing.

This policy rescinds any previously signed policies regarding minor conservatorship expenditures.

- 1) No expenditure will be allowed unless it directly benefits the child.
- 2) No expenditure will be allowed that benefits the child if the expenditure relieves a parental obligation that could be otherwise met by the family. Before expenditure will be allowed, evidence must be presented to the Court that the parent(s) cannot otherwise provide the benefit. A family financial history will need to be completed. Receipts for allowed expenditures must be received by the Court within ten days of an order allowing withdrawal of funds from a minor's restricted account.
- 3) Expenditures regarding maintenance of the principal in a minor's account will be allowed without a hearing. An example of such a situation would be for payment of taxes due on the interest income in a minor's account.
- 4) At the Court's discretion, attorney and guardian ad litem fees may also be ordered out of the minor's funds.

HON. MELANIE D. STANTON  
Grand Traverse County Probate Court

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