

# New Jersey Guardianship Attorney Christine Matus Explains Guardianship for People with Disabilities

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New Jersey guardianship attorney Christine Matus (<https://matuslaw.com/guardianships-people-special-needs-disabilities/>) releases a new article explaining the guardianship process for people with disabilities in New Jersey. The lawyer mentions that in New Jersey, a person who reaches the age of 18, will be able to make their own decisions legally. Parents can no longer make decisions on behalf of their children who are 18 or older.

“This is true even when the child has disabilities that may make them unable to make sound decisions regarding their care or other essential aspects of their life. To deal with this issue, parents may want to establish a guardianship arrangement,” the New Jersey guardianship attorney says.

In New Jersey, a guardian is a person who acts on behalf of either a minor or an incapacitated person known as the ward. One role a guardian has to fulfill is to ensure that their ward’s health welfare and safety needs are met. They will also have to protect their ward’s rights in almost every aspect of the ward’s life.

There are two types of guardianship in New Jersey. Depending on the type of guardianship a person may need, they may be subject to general guardianship or limited guardianship.

General guardianship refers to guardianship where the ward is not able to make any decisions on behalf of themselves. In this situation, a general guardian is necessary and is sometimes referred to as a “plenary guardian”.

Limited guardianship is a guardianship arrangement where the decisions a guardian can make are limited to specific categories. Permissions in this type of guardianship are usually expressed in categories such as education, healthcare, financial, and residential issues.

In the article, attorney Matus adds, "As part of the process, the ward will be evaluated to determine the extent of his or her disability. Someone from the Department of the Public Advocate will also represent the individual to ensure that his or her rights are protected in the proceedings."

Lastly, attorney Matus closes the article by explaining that one might still need a will even if they have a living trust. A will is needed especially if there are minor children or if they still have other properties they didn't put in the trust.

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The Matus Law Group

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