

<p>[NAME] COUNTY DISTRICT COURT [Address]</p> <hr/> <p><b>In re the Petition of:</b></p> <p><b>[Name], underage party.</b></p>	<p><b>COURT USE ONLY</b></p>
<p>[Name] Guardian <i>ad litem</i> for [Child/Youth Name] [Street address] [City], Colorado [zip code] Phone: [###-###-####] Fax: [###-###-####] E-mail: [aaa@bbb.ccc]                      Atty. Reg.#: [#####]</p>	<p>Case Number: {#####} Division: [#####]</p>
<p><b>REPORT OF THE GUARDIAN AD LITEM PURSUANT TO COLORADO REVISED STATUTE 14-2-108(2)(b)(I)</b></p>	

COMES NOW, [Name], the court-appointed Guardian *ad Litem* (“GAL”) for the underage party [Name], who respectfully submits this Report of the Guardian *ad litem* Pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute 14-2-108(2)(b)(I) and recommends the Court order the county clerk to issue a marriage license to the underage party [Name]. In support, the GAL states as follows:

1. [Name] was appointed as GAL on [Date] and directed to conduct an investigation and file this report pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute 14-2-108(2)(b)(I). The factors to be considered by the Court as outlined in Colorado Revised Statute 14-2-108(2)(b)(II) are addressed herein.
2. [Name] is the underage party petitioning the court for the issuance of a marriage license. [Name] is [##] years of age (D.O.B. [date]). [Name] graduated from [Name] High School on [date]. [Name] currently resides with [whom] in [Name of City], Colorado. [Name] is intending to marry [Name] (D.O.B. [date]).
3. **Wishes of the underage party:** [Names] planned their wedding for [date], and discovered just short of that date that the law had changed requiring [Name] to file a petition for the issuance of the marriage license due to [Name’s] age. The parties went forward with the wedding ceremony and celebration as planned with all their friends and family in attendance. [Name] desires to be legally married to [Name] and wants the Court to authorize the issuance of the license.

4. **Parental view of the underage party:** The mother of [Name] is [Name]. [Name] supports [Name] getting married. [Name] and [Name] have an open and strong relationship. [Name] raised [Name] on [Name's] own; [Name's] father has not been involved. [Name] indicated that a focus of [Name's] parenting has been to raise [Name's] kids to be happy, supporting their choices and ambitions and encouraging them to make choices that are right for them and not necessarily what the world may view as the typical path. [Name] has wanted to marry [Name] for some time; [Name] indicated [Name] would need to finish high school first before [Name] would support that. [Name] has shown maturity and thoughtfulness around [Name's] decision and [Name] is supportive. When they found out the marriage license could not issue and [Name] was upset about the wedding set on [date], [Name] told [Name], "You will just have two anniversaries now and more opportunities to celebrate." [Name] supported [Name] after [Name] graduated from high school; [Name] resided with [Name] and [Name] until [Name] left for basic training.
5. **The ability of the underage party to assume the responsibilities of marriage:** This requirement is interesting, as many adults of all ages may not have the capacity to assume the responsibilities of marriage. [Name] was a very bright, articulate, polite young person who presented as older than [Name's] chronological age. [Name] worked hard to graduate early from high school, appeared to have a good understanding of what marriage means to [Name] and [Name's] intended spouse. [Name] was able to articulate the seriousness of this commitment and decision and recognized the notion that some people would find [Name's] marrying at such a young age as outside the norm. [Name] will be [##] years old on [date] and in my interactions with [Name], [Name] appears to be mature for [Name's] age, responsible, and has a good sense of self awareness. I do believe [Name] is able to assume the responsibilities of marriage as well as, and likely better, than many 18-year-old individuals.
6. **The circumstances surrounding the marriage:** [Name] has wanted to be married to [Name], as [Name] intends to build a life with [Name] and be with [Name] always. The circumstances surrounding getting married now as opposed to waiting until [Name] is 18 is primarily so [Name] is able to join [Name] in [location] where [Name] is stationed. If they are not legally married, [Name] would need to find housing in the community where [Name] and [Name] could reside. Whereas if they are legally married, they can live in base housing. This makes a lot more sense economically for them and more convenient for [Name]. Additionally, as [Name] gets moved or stationed at other posts, the military will move them both from base housing to base housing. Without being legally married [Name] would need to move to wherever [Name] would be stationed and again set up community housing. Additionally, as a military spouse, there are a lot of benefits available to [Name]. Some of these benefits are address below in number 8 of this report.

7. **The ability of the underage party to manage the underage party's financial, personal, social, educational, and non-financial affairs independent of the underage party's intended spouse both during the marriage or upon dissolution of the marriage:** It was clear to this GAL that [Name] had given a lot of thought about this decision to get married and why it would make the most sense as opposed to moving to [location] as [Name's] significant other until [Name] turns 18 on [date].
8. As a military spouse, [Name] would be able to receive [Name's] health benefits and life insurance through the military. They also offer assistance for pursuing [Name's] secondary education. [Name] comes from a very career-oriented family and [Name] knows [Name] wants to pursue a secondary education in one form or another. [Name] is interested in the medical field and has been considering everything from pharmacist to massage therapy. [Name] has not decided exactly what [Name] wants to pursue yet but appreciates [Name's] family's support in taking time to discover a field [Name] is interested in. When [Name] does decide, [Name] has looked at opportunities in [location] where [Name] can begin some classes in furtherance of this goal.
9. [Name] was able to discuss [Name's] expectations in their relationship around supporting one another, being a support to [Name] and wanting him to support [Name] in the same way. [Name] talked about the kinds of things they enjoy doing together. While in [location], [Name] would travel up to Colorado to see [Name] every 3-4 weeks before the wedding. [Name] took a lot of [Name's] leave time for the wedding so [Name's] ability to visit since then has been limited. They talk daily and [Name] believes they communicate very well. They have talked about working through issues that will come up and have already both said that if needed they would go to couples counseling, which is also offered by the military.
10. [Name] has looked into a military spouse program that is offered on base to [Name] to provide military spouses with support and provide a social network. [Name] will be driving [Name's] car to [location] and will therefore have transportation to get off base and explore. [Name] believes [Name's] communication with [Name's] family will continue to be strong and [Name] would also turn to them for any support needed. Should something happen and [Name] needs to leave the relationship, [Name] would return to Colorado to [Name's] mother's home. But [Name] was clear that [Name's] intention would first be to try and work things out.
11. [Name] has been employed in the past and would plan to find employment in [location]. [Name] has [Name's] own bank account and would plan to keep [Name's] own account for some separate finances. [Name] would be getting an account with USAA, and they could have a joint account as well as some separation. [Name] indicated that [Name] and [Name] discussed this and neither one of them want [Name] to feel [Name] has no control over [Name's] own financial situation.

12. [Name] has clearly spent time looking into life in [location] and making sure [Name] has a plan on how to care for [Name], both within and outside of the marriage. [Name] has a supportive family who will continue to support [Name] both within the marriage and anything [Name] needs, as well as, outside the marriage should [Name] need assistance.
13. Based on the foregoing reasons, including [Name's] age and maturity, this GAL believes it is in the best interests of [Name] for the Court to order the issuance of a marriage license.

Respectfully Submitted this [##] day of [Month, 20##].

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[Name]  
GAL