



ASK THE LAWYER



by
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GRANDPARENT VISITATION RIGHTS

Divorce, death or absence of a parent may result in grandparents being denied desired access to their grandchildren. Most people are surprised to learn that grandparents have no automatic right to contact with their grandchildren. The best circumstance is one in which parents and grandparents are able to agree regarding grandparents' contact with the grandchildren. But if the family members do not get along, a court order may be needed. Wisconsin has a "third party visitation" statute under which a court may grant grandparents visitation with their grandchildren over the objection of the parent(s). This can be a difficult process as the law presumes that a fit parent makes decisions that are in the best interest of his/her child. The burden of proving otherwise is on the person seeking visitation. However, under the right circumstances, grandparents, former stepparents, foster parents, or others may be granted visitation. At Pruitt Zabkowicz S.C., our legal professionals are experienced in grandparent visitation issues, as well as all other aspects of family law. To schedule a free consultation, contact us for a phone, video, or in-person appointment at 262-633-8301, or through our website at pruittlawoffices.com. Our offices are located at 731 Main Street in Racine and 620 56th Street in Kenosha.

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