

# ANONYMOUS

Submission No. 2

Inquiry in Guardianship  
LRCV

Dear Committee

It has been a struggle to find this inquiry with even VCAT, when asked, responding that I should address any issues to them and did not advise me about your independent inquiry.

But I have serious concerns about their administration of guardianship including their partnerships which clearly are against the best interests of the community. Many complaints have been passed on to the government accordingly, and not solely from myself, but they have been consistently ignored.

Year ago, when my maternal grand parents were both still alive and of sound mind, they sought and initiated my becoming the Administrator of their affairs. They knew that they could trust me absolutely to carry out their wishes and to act in their best interests.

But regrettably that had a daughter (not my mother) whose interests were more aligned to what she and her children could get out of the estate, at almost any cost. And if required I could add significantly to this statement with many details and transcripts of telephone conversations. So after grand mother died, and grandfather became so unwell due to a host of medical factors, forcing us to place him in an approved aged care hostel, she began.

She approached VCAT and sought to remove me from my role and to transfer all power and authority to State Trustees, an organisation which is primarily interested in itself and I know of staff working for Anglicare, the Salvation Army and other care providers who have very similar reactions to this errant organisation as do I myself hold.

State Trustees claimed that I was not providing financial statements to them in a fast enough manner and the prime complainant made accusations including that I had created a false name for her, despite the fact that she was known by that name by her own parents, sister and aunt.

Anyway, VCAT upheld the complaint and guardianship was granted to State Trustees against my objections and those of my mother and my grandfather's sister who with me was Co Executor of the Estate. VCAT did not take up my suggestion that they visit my grandfather in the nursing home to see him at first hand, how well he was being cared for and to try to speak with him since, at times, he was very lucid.

In the period that State Trustees took over until his death, they also never once visited him. They never checked up with the Nursing Home. I had to remind them that they were required by VCAT order to keep me informed of his annual statements, and later I discovered that they had failed to put in any tax return on his behalf.

Prior to his State Trustees my parents and I looked after his home but when they took over they demanded the keys and we were not allowed in again until years later after his death. In that time the home was not aired, except as per below, and so it developed major cracks, as advised by a building inspector.

They undertook no work or upkeep on the property at all. They claimed that they were going to repair it and then rent it but failed to do a single thing until the weeks before his death.

I could continue but in short, their guardianship was one of absolute and gross incompetence.

All items were removed from the house in order to conduct repairs that never ever took place and stored at an eventual cost far in excess of their value. Some items were also lost or damaged and I have given up contacting regarding said items. They are useless as is State Trustees.

Other items were given away to neighbours as they advised us.

My mother and I - who asked to be present on the removal of items - were never so advised.

When my grandfather died State Trustees badgered us to have them undertake the legal affairs, as if they had not already bled the estate beyond what I would accept as reasonable. They knew he had died and yet when I rejected them they demanded a death certificate, became very bureaucratic and did not readily cooperate with the estate's chosen legal representatives.

So what did State Trustees and their minions do for my grandfather during their so called guardianship of him? Take his money. Sit on his house and allow it to slowly partly fall apart. fail to do his taxes. fail to check on his health and welfare. fail to show any real interest in a way that the average citizen would expect nay demand of a legal guardian.