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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2010 No. 2955**

**The Family Procedure Rules 2010**

**PART 15**

**REPRESENTATION OF PROTECTED PARTIES**

**How a person becomes a litigation friend without a court order**

**15.5.**—(1) If the court has not appointed a litigation friend, a person who wishes to act as a litigation friend must follow the procedure set out in this rule.

(2) A person with authority as a deputy to conduct the proceedings in the name of a protected party or on that party's behalf must file an official copy<sup>(GL)</sup> of the order, declaration or other document which confers that person's authority to act.

(3) Any other person must file a certificate of suitability stating that that person satisfies the conditions specified in rule 15.4(3).

(4) A person who is to act as a litigation friend must file—

- (a) the document conferring that person's authority to act; or
- (b) the certificate of suitability,

at the time when that person first takes a step in the proceedings on behalf of the protected party.

(5) A court officer will send the certificate of suitability to every person on whom, in accordance with rule 6.28, the application form should be served.

(6) This rule does not apply to the Official Solicitor.