TEXAS GUARDIANSHIP PROCESS
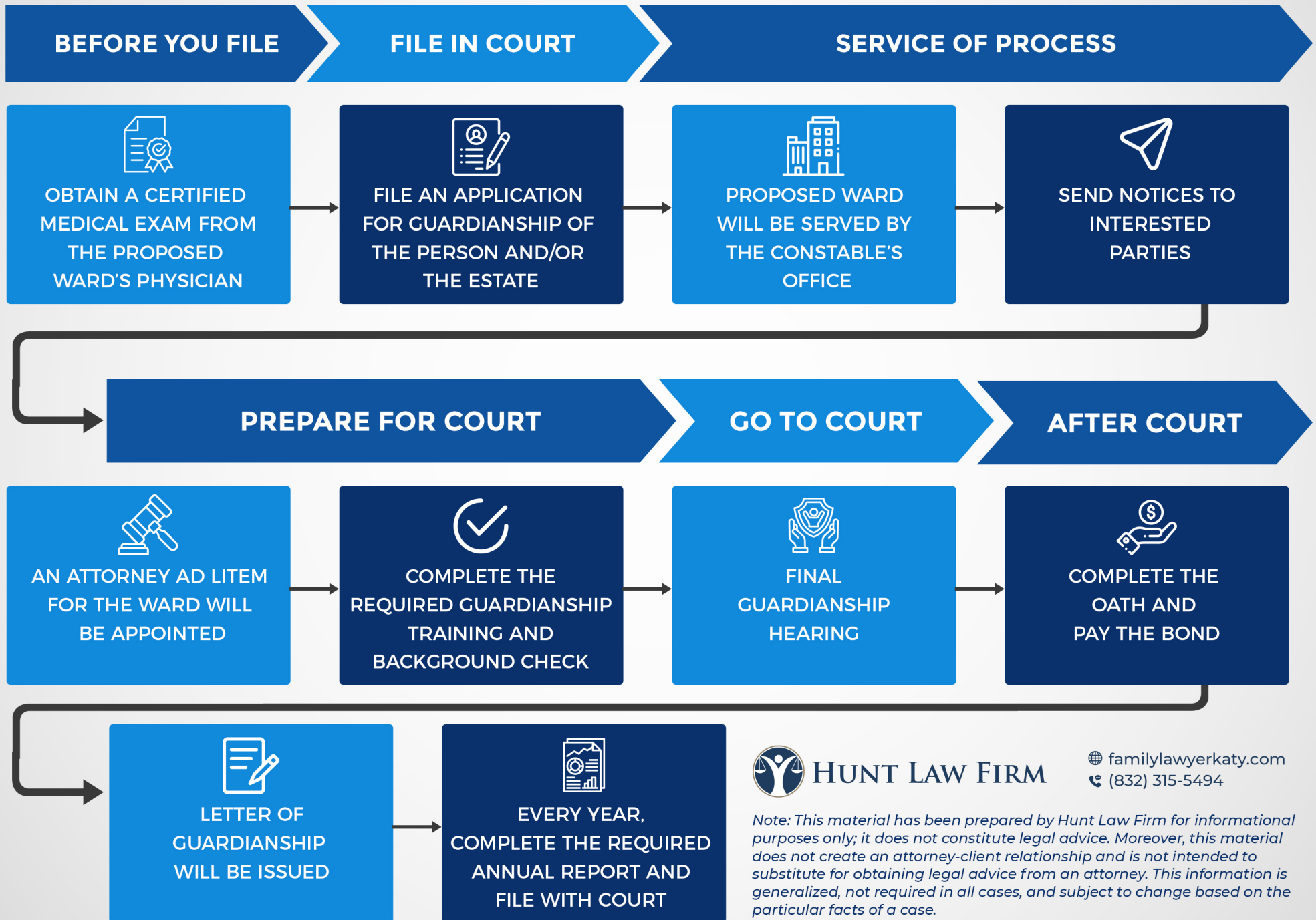
BEFORE YOU FILE → **FILE IN COURT** → **SERVICE OF PROCESS**

OBTAIN A CERTIFIED MEDICAL EXAM FROM THE PROPOSED WARD'S PHYSICIAN →

FILE AN APPLICATION FOR GUARDIANSHIP OF THE PERSON AND/OR THE ESTATE →

PROPOSED WARD WILL BE SERVED BY THE CONSTABLE'S OFFICE →

SEND NOTICES TO INTERESTED PARTIES

PREPARE FOR COURT → **GO TO COURT** → **AFTER COURT**

AN ATTORNEY AD LITEM FOR THE WARD WILL BE APPOINTED →

COMPLETE THE REQUIRED GUARDIANSHIP TRAINING AND BACKGROUND CHECK →

FINAL GUARDIANSHIP HEARING →

COMPLETE THE OATH AND PAY THE BOND

LETTER OF GUARDIANSHIP WILL BE ISSUED →

EVERY YEAR, COMPLETE THE REQUIRED ANNUAL REPORT AND FILE WITH COURT

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GUARDIANSHIP
TERMS YOU SHOULD KNOW

APPLICATION FOR GUARDIANSHIP
The formal legal document filed with the court to request the appointment of a guardian for an incapacitated person.

INCAPACITY
Refers to the inability of an individual to make or communicate responsible decisions concerning their person due to a physical or mental condition.

GUARDIANSHIP
A legal relationship where a court gives an individual (the guardian) authority to make personal and/or financial decisions on behalf of an incapacitated person (the ward).

WARD
The individual who is determined to be incapacitated and in need of a guardian to make decisions on their behalf.

GUARDIAN OF THE PERSON
The individual appointed by the court to make personal, non-financial decisions for the ward, such as healthcare, living arrangements, and other personal matters.

GUARDIAN OF THE ESTATE
The individual appointed by the court to manage the financial affairs and assets of the ward.

ATTORNEY AD LITEM
An attorney appointed by the court to represent the interests of the incapacitated person during guardianship proceedings.

JBCC
The Texas Judicial Branch Certification Commission or "JBCC" is who is in charge of the training required to become a guardian.

LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP
The legal document issued by the court that authorizes a person to act as the guardian of the ward.

NOTICE
The formal communication of the guardianship proceedings to interested parties, including the incapacitated person, family members, and other relevant individuals.

ANNUAL REPORT
Required documentation filed by the guardian with the court detailing the ward's condition, the decisions made, and the financial status.

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