

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**IN RE: GUARDIANSHIP OF  
THERESA MARIE SCHIAVO,  
Ward.**

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**PROBATE DIVISION  
Ref No.: 90-002908-GD  
Section: 003**

**ORDER DENYING MOTION TO INTERVENE AND  
DENYING AS MOOT MOTIONS TO UNSEAL GUARDIANSHIP RECORDS**

THIS CAUSE came before the Court for hearing on October 29, 2024. On March 28, 2024, Movants, Bobby Schindler and the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network, filed their Motion to Intervene and Motion to Unseal Guardianship Records. On July 2, 2024, Michael Schiavo, surviving spouse and former Guardian of the Ward, filed a Response and Objection to both motions. On July 31, 2024, Movants filed an Amended Motion to Unseal Guardianship Records. On October 3, 2024, Michael Schiavo filed an Amended Response and Objection to Motion to Intervene as well as a Response and Objection and Affirmative Defenses to Amended Motion to Unseal Guardianship Records. On October 25, 2024, Movants filed a Memorandum in Support of Amended Motion to Unseal Guardianship Records. Upon consideration of the court file, the arguments of counsel, and the applicable legal authority, the Court finds that the Motion to Intervene is denied and the Motion to Unseal Guardianship Records and Amended Motion to Unseal Guardianship Records are denied as moot.

There is no absolute right to intervention; it is a matter left to the court's sound discretion. *Fla. Wildlife Fed'n, Inc. v. Bd. of Tr. of Internal Imp.*, 707 So.2d 841, 842 (Fla. 5th DCA 1998). Under Florida law, intervention is permitted only where a party seeking intervention has an interest in the litigation. Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.230. "An interest sufficient to warrant intervention 'must be in the matter in litigation, and of such a direct and immediate character that the intervenor will either gain or lose by the direct legal operation and effect of judgment.'" *Testa v. Dolphin Suite, LLC*, 391 So. 3d 946, 948 (Fla. 4th DCA 2024) (quoting *Union Cent. Life Ins. Co. v. Carlisle*, 593 So. 2d 505, 507 (Fla. 1992)). "A showing of indirect, inconsequential or contingent interest is wholly inadequate." *Stefanos v. Rivera-Berrios*, 673 So. 2d 12, 13 (Fla. 1996). Intervention after final judgement is "extraordinary and disfavored." *PS Capital, LLC v. Palm Springs Town Homes, LLC*, 9 So. 3d 643, 645 (Fla. 3d DCA 2009); *see also Technical*

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