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2 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
3 **EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**  
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5 S.T., a minor by and through his ) Case No. 1:16-cv-1713 LJO-BAM  
6 *guardian ad litem* Jessica Niblett, )  
7 individually and as successor in interest ) **ORDER APPOINTING JESSICA**  
8 of Albert B. Thompson, deceased, ) **NIBLETT AS GUARDIAN AD LITEM**  
9 ) **FOR MINOR PLAINTIFF S.T.**  
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16 On November 10, 2016, Plaintiff S.T., a minor by and through his guardian ad litem  
17 Jessica Niblett, attached an application for the appointment of a guardian ad litem to her initial  
18 complaint. (Doc. 1-2.) “District courts have a special duty, derived from Federal Rule of Civil  
19 Procedure 17(c), to safeguard the interests of litigants who are minors.” *Robidoux v. Rosengren*,  
20 638 F.3d 1177, 1181 (9th Cir. 2011). Rule 17 provides that “[t]he court must appoint a guardian  
21 ad litem—or issue another appropriate order—to protect a minor or incompetent person who is  
22 unrepresented in an action.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 17(c)(2). Local Rule 202(a) of this Court further  
23 states, in pertinent part,

24 Upon commencement of an action or upon initial appearance in defense of an  
25 action by or on behalf of a minor . . . the attorney representing the minor or  
26 incompetent person shall present . . . a motion for the appointment of a guardian  
27 ad litem by the Court, or . . . a showing satisfactory to the Court that no such  
28 appointment is necessary to ensure adequate representation of the minor or  
incompetent person.

