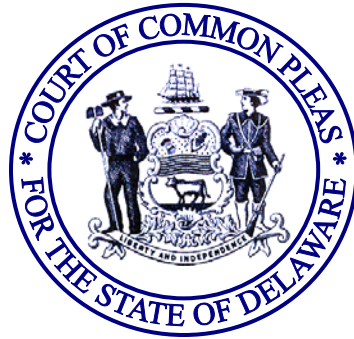


COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

for the State of Delaware



CHANGE OF NAME PETITIONS
INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHILDREN AGES 14 -17
KENT COUNTY

<http://courts.state.de.us/commonpleas/>

CHANGE OF NAME INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHILDREN (14 - 17)

1. This packet contains the following: a Petition for Change of Name and an Affidavit. The Petition for Change of Name and Affidavit must be filled out. A Notary Public must swear to the Affidavit. All children from the ages of 14 to 17 must sign the Petition along with the Parent(s). The Court will accept the original paperwork only. Copies will not be accepted. (If both natural parents will be signing the Petition, please skip number 2 and go on to number 3)
2. Notice of the name change must be served upon the natural parent not involved in filing the Petition. If he/she resides in Delaware, the Sheriff will do this. There is a \$30.00 service fee for the Sheriff. **(THIS MUST BE CASH OR MONEY ORDER ONLY – NO PERSONAL CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED)** If the defendant cannot be served personally in this state, then substituted service as ordered by the court. The petitioner must file a motion and order for substituted service signed by the Judge before a hearing is scheduled on the Petition.
3. Notice must be given to the General Public that you are changing your name. This is done by filing the Petition for Change of Name and the Affidavit with a newspaper with general circulation in Kent County. The Court accepts the following newspapers: **The Delaware State News** and **The Dover Post**. The Petition and Affidavit must be published once a week for three (3) weeks at which time you will receive an Affidavit of Publication from the newspaper. The Affidavit of Publication must be stapled together with the Petition for Change of Name and the Affidavit that has been notarized. Once you receive your Affidavit of Publication you will bring these documents, along with the green card if applicable, to the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas at Kent County Courthouse, 414 Federal Street, Dover, Delaware to be filed. There is an eighty-five dollar (\$85.00) filing fee, which includes a Court Security Assessment.
4. To file this Petition in the Court of Common Pleas, Kent County, you must be resident of Kent County in the State of Delaware. (A Delaware driver's license must be shown to the Clerk at the time this Petition is reviewed) If you or your spouse is in the military, you must claim Delaware as your residency.
5. Change of Name Petitions are usually scheduled on Wednesday's and Friday's at 9 a.m. Upon filing your Petition, notice will be sent to you as to your hearing date. Please include the address and telephone number where you can be reached in case Petitions are rescheduled.
6. If your motion is granted you, are entitled to one certified copy of the Order. There is a ten-dollar (\$10.00) service charge for each additional certified copy.

Please direct all questions to the Court of Common Pleas, Kent County Courthouse, Dover, Delaware at (302) 735-3900 and press 3.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE
IN AND FOR KENT COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF: _____)
) NO.
)
(Child's Name)) **PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE**
)
)
B/N/F)
(Natural Parent's Name))

AND NOW COMES, the Petitioner _____
(Child's Name)
by his/her next of friend _____, and (Natural
Parent's Name)
respectfully represents:

1. That the Petitioner is _____ years old having been born on _____ in _____.
2. _____ is the Natural Parent of _____ . He/she resides at _____ .
3. Petitioner desires to change his/her name from _____ to _____ .
4. That the natural Father/Mother, consents to said name change.
5. The reason for the proposed change of name is: _____ .

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully prays that this Petition for Change of Name be granted, and that an Order be entered by the Court changing the name of _____ to _____ .

Dated: _____ (Natural Parent's Signature)
Phone # _____ (Child's Signature)

STATE OF DELAWARE)
) SS.
COUNTY OF KENT)

BE IT REMEMBERED that on the _____ day of _____ A.D., 20____, personally appeared before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, _____ the Natural Parent of the Petitioner named in the foregoing Petition for Change of Name, who doth depose and say that the facts in the Petition are true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Natural Parent's Signature

(Child's Signature)

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me the day and year first above written.

NOTARY PUBLIC

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE
IN AND FOR KENT COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF:)	CASE NO.
)	
)	<u>NOTICE</u>
_____)	
(Child's Name))	
)	
_____)	
(Natural Parent's Name))	

TO: _____ (Biological Mother/Father)

That I, _____, have filed a petition for name change for our child, _____, to change his/her name to _____.

_____ . A hearing shall be held in the Court of Common Pleas. Any questions concerning this matter should be directed to the Civil Clerk at (302) 735-3900.

(Signature of Petitioner)