

PETITION FOR ADOPTION OF ADULT BY STEPPARENT

***Packet Price: \$9.00**

*Filing fee - \$439.50 (includes notary fee)

*On any given day, (Mon-Fri) you must be at the clerk's office before 3:00 p.m. to file a new case.

*Do not date or sign any documents unless you are in front of a Deputy Clerk or notary.

*There will be a fee at the sheriff's office when having the other party served.

*If you have any questions, you may call us at 850-981-5554.

- Emerald Coast Legal Aid – 850-432-2336
- Legal Services of North Florida – 850-432-8222
- Pro Se Coordinator - Kay Camp – 850-981-5588 – Kay.Camp@flcourts1.gov (*preferred method of contact*)

Petition for Adoption of Adult by Stepparent Checklist

1. ☐ Civil Cover Sheet for Family Law Cases, Form 12.928
2. ☐ Proof of Residency
3. ☐ Petition for Adoption of Adult by Stepparent, Form 12.981(c)(1)
4. ☐ Acceptance and Waiver of Service of Process of Summons **or** Return/Affidavit/Proof of Service from the sheriff's office
5. ☐ Stepparent Adoption: Consent of Adoptee, Form 12.981(a)(2) *This form is used only if the adoptee is over 12 years of age.*
6. ☐ Stepparent Adoption: Consent of Adult Adoptee's Spouse, Form 12.981(c)(2)
7. ☐ Notice and Acknowledgement of Limitation of Services Provided
8. ☐ Disclosure from Nonlawyer, Form 12.900(a) *This form is only used when a non-lawyer has assisted in the completion of the forms.*
9. ☐ Designation of Current Address and E-mail Address, Form 12.915
10. ☐ Notice of Related Cases, Form 12.900(h)
11. ☐ Motion for Search of the Putative Father Registry, Form 12.981(a)6) and Order Granting Motion for Search of the Putative Father Registry, Form 12.981(a)(7)
12. ☐ Copy of Birth Certificate
13. ☐ Copy of respondent's death certificate, if deceased
14. ☐ Process Service Memorandum, Form 12.910(b)
15. ☐ Request for Hearing
16. ☐ Certified Statement of Final Decree of Adoption. *This is a Florida Department of Health Vital Statistics form and will not normally need to be filed until there is a final judgment.*

**SELF-HELP PACKET FOR
PETITION FOR ADOPTION OF ADULT BY STEPPARENT
Prepared 02/10/2025**

- This instruction sheet is for **a stepparent who is adopting his/her spouse's adult child(ren).**
- You must obtain the written consent of the adult child to be adopted, as well as the written consent of his/her spouse (if married).
- There are fees for filing this petition and for service by the Sheriff's Office (if needed).
 - **\$439.50 to the Clerk's Office**
 - **\$40.00 to the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office**
 - *If you cannot pay the fees at the time of filing because of unemployment or insufficient income, you may meet the criteria to be declared indigent. You must complete a **Civil Affidavit/Application of Indigency Status** with the Clerk's Office. If you meet the criteria, the filing fees will be waived; there will be service fees that cannot be waived, and payment will be required. If obtaining service of process by the Sheriff's Office, you will need to take a copy of the Civil Application to the Sheriff's Office along with service packet. The service fee for the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office will also be waived.*
- **Petitioner:** stepparent who is married to the biological parent of the adult to be adopted
- **Respondent:** the birth parent who is being asked to give up his/her parental rights pending the adoption
- **Make sure all documents in the packet provided have been completed. A hearing date will not be scheduled until all required documents have been filed with the Clerk's Office.**

WHERE DO I FILE THE FORMS?

- Family Law Clerk of Court located at 4025 Avalon Blvd., Milton, FL or South End Service Center, 5841 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, FL or by becoming a registered user of the Florida Courts E-filing Portal at **www.myflcourtaaccess.com**.

WHAT DO I DO AFTER I HAVE FILED?

- The Clerk will issue a summons (if needed) for the respondent and attach all filed paperwork.
- The summons informs the respondent that he/she will have 20 calendar days to respond to your petition.
- For persons residing in Santa Rosa County, you will take the packet to the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office, Civil Division at 5755 E. Milton Rd., Milton, FL for service of process on the respondent.
- The Sheriff's Office will send a Return of Service to you and to the Clerk of Court, stating whether the respondent was or was not served.
- **If the respondent lives in another county/state**, you will need to contact the Sheriff's Office in the county where the party resides for instructions to service or utilize the services of a certified process server in that county. **For out of state service, the agency will send the return of service to you. It is your responsibility to file the return with the Clerk's Office.**
- The Request for Hearing completed by you will be sent by the clerk to the Pro Se Coordinator.
- **In approximately 90 days from the date the petition is filed**, the Pro Se Coordinator will review your filed documents and ensure the respondent has filed a response. Once her review is complete, she will contact either party by email if additional/corrected documents are required. Once all requested documents are filed by the parties, she will schedule a hearing date. **You will be emailed/mailed a Notice of Hearing. You will need to download or print the Notice of**

Hearing as the link will expire in approximately 2 weeks. THERE IS NO NEED TO CALL AND INQUIRE ABOUT HEARING DATE.

- **PLEASE NOTE IF YOUR EMAIL IS ON FILE WITH THE CLERK, ALL CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE SENT TO YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS**

CAN I SERVE THE OTHER PARTY MYSELF?

NO! If the **respondent** agrees, they may waive service by the Sheriff by **signing** an Acceptance and Waiver of Service Process of Summons. The **only** other option for service is by a Sheriff *or* a Civil Process Server.

WHAT IF I WANT TO STOP THE PROCESS OR WITHDRAW THE PETITION?

If you decide not to pursue the petition and want to dismiss it, you can file a Notice of Voluntary Dismissal, Form 12.927, with the Clerk's Office.

WHAT IF THE RESPONDENT DOES NOT ANSWER OR FILE THE NECESSARY FORMS?

Once the respondent has been served or waived service, he/she will have 20 calendar days to file an answer to the petition for adoption.

- If the respondent fails to answer the original petition with the **20 days** allowed, you may file a **Motion for Default**, Form 12.922(a), along with an **Affidavit of Military Service**, Form 12.912(b). The **Motion for Default** requests that the court allow you to proceed to a final hearing.

WHAT IF I CANNOT LOCATE THE RESPONDENT?

- If you have a last known Florida address, you **must** attempt *personal service* first.
- After personal service has been attempted and the party still cannot be served (either in or out of state), the moving party must use **constructive service**. Constructive Service is a method of LAST RESORT to be used when personal or substitute service or process cannot be made

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance.

Please contact:

Court Administration, ADA Liaison
Santa Rosa County, 4025 Avalon Blvd.
Milton, FL 32583
Phone 850-623-3159, Fax (850) 983-0602
ADA.SantaRosa@glcourts1.gov

at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification in the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, Call 711.

FLORIDA COURTS E-FILING PORTAL REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

The Santa Rosa County Courthouse, Family Law Division, is going “paperless”. To receive copies of documents electronically filed in your case by e-mail, including Orders and Judgments, you will need to register for an account on the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal. There is no cost or charge for this service.

1. Go to the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal at www.myflcourtaccess.com
2. Click on “File Now”
3. Register for an account using the Role “Self-Represented Litigant”
4. Complete your personal email information
5. Click on “Register”
6. You will receive an email to activate your account
7. Follow the instructions in that email to activate your account

PRO SE INFORMATION

(Prepared 08/27/24)

ABOUT LEGAL PROCEEDINGS:

- A pro se litigant is a person who represents his or herself on a legal matter without the legal advice and representation of an attorney licensed to practice law.
- It is highly recommended that you consult with an attorney before deciding to represent yourself in court.
- The Pro Se Coordinator nor the Clerk are attorneys and cannot give you legal advice, represent you in court, tell you what to say, do or write, or tell you about your legal rights and remedies.
- The Pro Se Coordinator can give you information and guidance on how the court system works, what forms are available for your use, local procedures for filing your forms and getting a hearing date and agencies in the community that may be able to assist you.
- It is the pro se litigant's responsibility to file the appropriate pleadings with the Clerk of Court, properly serve the opposing party with a copy of all documents, and make sure that the other party is given sufficient notice of the hearing.
- You are representing yourself and you alone are responsible for the correct completion and filing of forms.
- There is no confidential relationship between Family Law Pro Se Staff and pro se litigants.

ABOUT THE COURT HEARING:

- Be prepared to tell the Court what specific issues are to be addressed. It is recommended that you write down all issues and concerns that you will need to know in court rather than rely on memory.
- **The parties are not allowed to speak to each other. All questions and objections must be directed to the Judge.** Address the Judge as "Your Honor" and request permission to address the court before speaking. **Do not talk while the Judge is talking.**
- Arrangements should be made in advance for the care of minor children. The court will not address family law issues while the minor child(ren) are present.
- Be sure to dress appropriately. No shorts, flip flops, slippers, halter or low-cut tops, tank tops, tight or short skirts/dresses.
- All parties must always maintain the utmost respect for the Court and each other.
- The Court will not tolerate emotional outbursts. If you disagree with the Judge's decision, refrain from yelling, cursing, or making rude, threatening or other inappropriate comments.

CAUTION: The Judge can hold you in contempt of court for inappropriate actions or words, and you could be fined and/or incarcerated.

For a complete list of forms that are available through the Florida Supreme Court, please refer to the Florida Courts official website, [flcourts.gov](https://www.flcourts.gov). From there, locate "Family Law Forms" under the "Self-Help Information" tab. For other information, refer to the Florida Statutes and the Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure. You may find these and more information at:

<https://www.flcourts.gov/Resources-Services/Office-of-Family-Courts/Self-Help-Information/Getting-Started>

NOTICE OF LIMITATION OF SERVICES PROVIDED

This list of forms and procedural information should be considered as a guideline and not legal advice. It is up to you, the pro se litigant, to determine which forms and/or packets are appropriate for your situation. You are representing yourself, and you alone are responsible for the correct completion and filing of the forms. It is also your decision whether or not you choose to use the forms provided. The presiding judge in your case may require an amendment of form(s) or substitution of a different form other than any you may have obtained from the Clerk's office or a legal forms provider. The form(s) you file are only a request of the Court. The judge is not required to grant the relief requested in a form.

The Clerk of Court and court personnel cannot act as your lawyer, provide legal advice to you, advise you of your legal rights or remedies, represent you in court, or tell you how to testify in court. The Clerk of Court and court personnel are not acting on behalf of the Court or any judge. Services are available to all persons who are or will be parties to a family case. The information you give to and receive from the Clerk of Court and court personnel is not confidential and may be subject to disclosure at a later date. Nothing you may tell the Clerk of Court and court personnel is confidential. If another person involved in your case seeks assistance from the Clerk of Court and court personnel, that person will receive the same service provided to you. It is best to consult with your own attorney, especially if your case presents significant issues regarding children, child support, alimony, retirement or pension benefits, assets, or liabilities.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE
FORM 12.928
COVER SHEET FOR FAMILY COURT CASES (02/24)**

When should this form be used?

The Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases and the information contained in it does not replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other documents as required by law. This form shall be filed by the petitioner/party opening or reopening a case for the use of the **clerk of the circuit court** for the purpose of reporting judicial workload data pursuant to Florida Statutes section 25.075.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. The petitioner must **file** this cover sheet with the first pleading or motion filed to open or reopen a case in all domestic and juvenile cases.

What should I do next?

Follow these instructions for completing the form:

- I. Case Style. Enter the name of the court, the appropriate case number assigned at the time of filing of the original petition, the name of the judge assigned (if applicable), and the name (last, first, middle initial) of the petitioner(s) and respondent(s).
- II. Type of Action /Proceeding. Place a check beside the proceeding you are initiating. If you are filing more than one type of proceeding, (such as a modification and an enforcement proceeding) against the same party at the same time, then you must complete a separate cover sheet for each action being filed.
 - (A) Initial Action/Petition
 - (B) Reopening Case. If you check "Reopening Case," indicate whether you are filing a modification or supplemental petition or an action for enforcement by placing a check beside the appropriate action/petition.
 1. Modification/Supplemental Petition
 2. Motion for Civil Contempt/ Enforcement
 3. Other – All reopening actions not involving modification/supplemental petitions or petition enforcement.
- III. Type of Case. Place a check beside the appropriate case. If the case fits more than one category, select the most definitive. Definitions of the categories are provided below.
 - (A) Simplified Dissolution of Marriage- petitions for the termination of marriage pursuant to Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.105.
 - (B) Dissolution of Marriage - petitions for the termination of marriage pursuant to Chapter

- (C) 61, Florida Statutes, other than simplified dissolution.
- (D) Domestic Violence - all matters relating to injunctions for protection against domestic violence pursuant to section 741.30, Florida Statutes.
- (E) Dating Violence - all matters relating to injunctions for protection against dating violence pursuant to section 784.046, Florida Statutes.
- (F) Repeat Violence - all matters relating to injunctions for protection against repeat violence pursuant to section 784.046, Florida Statutes.
- (G) Sexual Violence - all matters relating to injunctions for protection against sexual violence pursuant to section 784.046, Florida Statutes.
- (H) Stalking-all matters relating to injunctions for protection against stalking pursuant to section 784.0485, Florida Statutes
- (I) Support - IV-D - all matters relating to child or spousal support in which an application for assistance has been filed with the Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement under Title IV-D, Social Security Act, except for such matters relating to dissolution of marriage petitions (sections 409.2564, 409.2571, and 409.2597, Florida Statutes), paternity, or UIFSA.
- (J) Support-Non IV-D - all matters relating to child or spousal support in which an application for assistance has **not** been filed under Title IV-D, Social Security Act.
- (K) UIFSA- IV-D - all matters relating to Chapter 88, Florida Statutes, in which an application for assistance has been filed under Title IV-D, Social Security Act.
- (L) UIFSA - Non IV-D - all matters relating to Chapter 88, Florida Statutes, in which an application for assistance has **not** been filed under Title IV-D, Social Security Act.
- (M) Support for Dependent Adult Children – all matters related to support of a dependent adult child.
- (N) Other Family Court - all matters involving time-sharing and/or parenting plans relating to minor child(ren), support unconnected with dissolution of marriage, annulment, delayed birth certificates pursuant to Florida Statutes section 382.0195, expedited affirmation of parental status pursuant to Florida Statutes section 742.16, termination of parental rights proceedings pursuant to Florida Statutes section 63.087, declaratory judgment actions related to premarital, marital, post-marital agreements, or other matters not included in the categories above.
- (O) Adoption Arising Out Of Chapter 63 - all matters relating to adoption pursuant to Chapter 63, Florida Statutes, excluding any matters arising out of Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.
- (P) Name Change - all matters relating to name change, pursuant to section 68.07, Florida Statutes.
- (Q) Paternity/Disestablishment of Paternity – all matters relating to paternity pursuant to Chapter 742, Florida Statutes.
- (R) Juvenile Delinquency - all matters relating to juvenile delinquency pursuant to Chapter 985, Florida Statutes.
- (S) Petition for Dependency - all matters relating to petitions for dependency.
- (T) Shelter Petition – all matters relating to shelter petitions pursuant to Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.
- (U) Termination of Parental Rights Arising Out Of Chapter 39 – all matters relating to

- (V) termination of parental rights pursuant to Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.
- (W) Adoption Arising Out Of Chapter 39 – all matters relating to adoption pursuant to Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.
- (X) CINS/FINS – all matters relating to children in need of services (and families in need of services) pursuant to Chapter 984, Florida Statutes.
- (Y) Petition for Temporary or Concurrent Custody by Extended Family-all matters relating to petitions for temporary or concurrent custody pursuant to Chapter 751.
- (Z) Emancipation of a Minor-all matters relating to emancipation of a minor pursuant to Chapter 743.

ATTORNEY OR PARTY SIGNATURE. Sign the Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases. Print legibly the name of the person signing the Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases. Attorneys must include a Florida Bar number. Insert the date the Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases is signed. Signature is a certification that filer has provided accurate information on the Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases.

Nonlawyer Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

A copy of this form must be filed with the court and served on the other party or his or her attorney. The copy you are serving to the other party must be either mailed, e-mailed, or hand-delivered to the opposing party or his or her attorney on the same day indicated on the certificate of service. If it is mailed, it must be postmarked on the date indicated in the certificate of service.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

The Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you must

review Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at www.flcourts.org through the link to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO. If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by email, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General), Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915;** and Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

Where can I look for more information?

Before proceeding, you should read “General Information for Self-Represented Litigants” found at the beginning of these forms. For further information, see Rule 12.100, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure.

COVER SHEET FOR FAMILY COURT CASES

I. Case Style

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Judge: _____

Petitioner,

and

Respondent.

- II. Type of Action/Proceeding. Place a check beside the proceeding you are initiating. If you are filing more than one type of proceeding (such as a modification and an enforcement proceeding) against the same party at the same time, then you must complete a separate cover sheet for each action being filed. **If you are reopening a case, choose one of the three options below it.**

- (A) ____ Initial Action/Petition
(B) ____ Reopening Case
 1. ____ Modification/Supplemental Petition
 2. ____ Motion for Civil Contempt/Enforcement
 3. ____ Other

- III. Type of Case. If the case fits more than one type of case, select the most definitive.

- (A) ____ Simplified Dissolution of Marriage
(B) ____ Dissolution of Marriage
(C) ____ Domestic Violence
(D) ____ Dating Violence
(E) ____ Repeat Violence
(F) ____ Sexual Violence
(G) ____ Stalking
(H) ____ Support IV-D (Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
(I) ____ Support Non-IV-D (**not** Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
(J) ____ UIFSA IV-D (Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
(K) ____ UIFSA Non-IV-D (**not** Department of Revenue, Child Support Enforcement)
(L) ____ Support for Dependent Adult Children – all matters related to support of a dependent adult child.
(M) ____ Other Family Court
(N) ____ Adoption Arising Out Of Chapter 63

- (O) ____ Name Change
- (P) ____ Paternity/Disestablishment of Paternity
- (Q) ____ Juvenile Delinquency
- (R) ____ Petition for Dependency
- (S) ____ Shelter Petition
- (T) ____ Termination of Parental Rights Arising Out Of Chapter 39
- (U) ____ Adoption Arising Out Of Chapter 39
- (V) ____ CINS/FINS
- (W) ____ Petition for Temporary or Concurrent Custody by Extended Family
- (X) ____ Emancipation of a Minor

IV. Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.545(d) requires that a Notice of Related Cases Form, Family Law Form 12.900(h), be filed with the initial pleading/petition by the filing attorney or self-represented litigant in order to notify the court of related cases. Is Form 12.900(h) being filed with this Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases and initial pleading/petition?

____ No, to the best of my knowledge, no related cases exist.
 ____ Yes, all related cases are listed on Family Law Form 12.900(h).

ATTORNEY OR PARTY SIGNATURE

I CERTIFY that the information I have provided in this cover sheet is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature _____ FL Bar No.: _____
 Attorney or party (Bar number, if attorney)

 (Type or print name) (E-mail Address(es))

 Date

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW: [fill in all blanks]

This form was prepared for the: {choose only **one**} ____ Petitioner ____ Respondent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____

{name of business} _____

{address} _____

{city} _____, {state} _____, {zip code} _____, {telephone number} _____.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM
12.981(c)(1)
PETITION FOR ADOPTION OF ADULT BY STEPPARENT (11/15)**

When should this form be used?

This form should be used when a stepparent is adopting his or her spouse's adult child. You must obtain the written consent of the adult child to be adopted, as well as the written consent of his or her spouse (if married).

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. The name to be given to the adoptee **after** the adoption should be used in the heading of the petition. The stepparent is the petitioner, because he or she is the one who is asking the court for legal action. You must have your signature witnessed by a notary public or deputy clerk.

After completing this form, you should file the original with the clerk of the circuit court in the county where either you or the adoptee live and keep a copy for your records.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file a petition or other pleadings electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your petition, or other pleading or document electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

What should I do next?

For your case to proceed, you must have the written consent of the adoptee, and his or her spouse if married. Consent of the birth parent is not required, but written notice of the final hearing on the adoption must be provided to the parents, if any, or proof of service of process must be filed showing notice has been served on the parents. If you know where they live, you must use personal service. If you absolutely do not know where they live, you may use constructive service. For more information about personal and constructive service, you should refer the **General Instructions for Self-Represented Litigants** found at the beginning of these forms and the instructions to Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Forms 12.910(a) and 12.913(b) and Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.913(a). However, the law regarding constructive service is very complex and you may wish to consult an attorney regarding that issue.

When you have filed all of the required forms and met the requirements for consent as outlined above, you are ready to set a hearing on your petition. You should check with the clerk of court, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant to set a final hearing, and notify the other party(ies) using a **Notice of Hearing (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.923, or other appropriate notice of hearing form.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you **must** review Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at www.flcourts.org through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO. If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

Where can I look for more information?

Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms. See Chapter 63, Florida Statutes, and Florida Family Law Rule 12.200(a)(2) for further information.

Special notes...

With this petition you must file the following forms:

- **Stepparent Adoption: Consent of Adoptee**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.981(a)(2)
- **Stepparent Adoption: Consent of Adult Adoptee's Spouse**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.981(c)(2), if the adoptee is married

THIS ADOPTION MAY AFFECT THE ADOPTEE'S INHERITANCE.

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900 (a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also

must put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF

_____,
{use name to be given to the minor child} Adoptee.

PETITION FOR ADOPTION OF ADULT BY STEPPARENT

Petitioner, {full legal name} _____, files
this petition for adoption of the above-named adult, pursuant to Chapter 63, Florida Statutes, and states:

1. This is an action for adoption of an adult by the adult's stepparent, Petitioner.
2. I desire to adopt {adult's full legal name} _____,
who was born on {date} _____, at {city, county, and state} _____.
3. I desire to adopt the adult because: _____
4. I am _____ years old, and I have resided at {address} _____,
_____, Florida for _____ years.
5. The adoptee's name shall be: _____
6. The adoptee's birth parents are:

Father's Name

Birth date

Address

Mother's Name

Birth date

Address

7. **Notice.** Notice to the birth parents was made by: _____.

8. **Consent.**

*{Indicate **all** that apply}*

a. _____ The consent of the adoptee is attached.

b. _____ The adoptee is married to *{full legal name of adoptee's spouse}*, _____
_____ and the consent of the spouse is attached.

c. _____ The adoptee is not married.

9. Written notice of this final hearing was provided to the parents or proof of service of process showing notice has been served on the parents is attached.

WHEREFORE, I request that this Court enter a Final Judgment of Adoption of the Adult by Petitioner Stepparent and change the name of the adoptee.

I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the claims made in this petition and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.

Dated: _____

Signature of Party

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Designated E-mail Address(es): _____

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on _____ by _____.

NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk.}

_____ Personally known

_____ Produced identification

Type of identification produced _____

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the petitioner.

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____,

{name of business} _____,

{address} _____,

{city} _____, *{state}* _____, *{zip code}* _____, *{telephone number}* _____.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR SANTA ROSA COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA

PETITIONER

VS.

RESPONDENT

CASE NUMBER: _____

DIVISION: _____

ACCEPTANCE AND WAIVER OF SERVICE OF PROCESS OF SUMMONS

COMES NOW, _____, the Respondent in the above styled cause and hereby acknowledges receipt of a copy of the petition and summons in this action and in doing so accepts service of same and specifically waived formal service of process by sheriff or other person duly authorized to serve process in the State of Florida.

SIGNATURE - RESPONDENT

PRINT NAME

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

PHONE NUMBER

**STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF SANTA ROSA**

BEFORE ME, the undersigned personally appeared the respondent, _____, who is () personally known to me or who () produced _____ As identification, who executed the foregoing and states under penalties of perjury that he/she declares they have read the foregoing and that the facts stated therein are true and correct.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this ____ Day of _____, 200__.

NOTARY PUBLIC/DEPUTY CLERK (Seal)

NAME - Typed or Printed
COMMISSION NO. _____

EXPIRATION DATE: _____

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW
FORM 12.981(a)(2),
STEPPARENT ADOPTION: CONSENT OF ADOPTEE (03/15)**

When should this form be used?

This form must be completed and signed by the person being adopted, the adoptee, if he or she is **over 12 years of age**, unless the court, in the best interest of the minor excuses the minor's consent. It must be signed in the presence of a **notary public** or **deputy clerk** and two witnesses other than the notary public or deputy clerk.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where the **Joint Petition for Adoption by Stepparent**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.981(b)(1) is filed and keep a copy for your records.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

Special notes...

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900 (a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF

{use name to be given to the child(ren)} Adoptee(s).

CONSENT OF ADOPTEE

1. I, {full legal name} _____, being over the age of 12, consent to my adoption by {name} _____, to be his/her legal child and heir at law.
2. I have been told of my right to choose a person who does not have an employment, professional, or personal relationship with the adoption entity or prospective adoptive parents to be present when this affidavit is executed and to sign it as a witness. The witness I selected is: {full legal name} _____.
3. {Choose only one}
() I consent to my name being legally changed to {specify} _____.
() I do **not** consent to a name change.

I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the claims made in this consent and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.

Dated: _____

Signature of Adoptee

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Designated E-mail Address(es): _____

Signature of Witness

Printed Name: _____

Business Address: _____

Home Address: _____

Driver's License No.: _____

State ID Card No.: _____

Signature of Witness

Printed Name: _____

Business Address: _____

Home Address: _____

Driver's License No.: _____

State ID Card No.: _____

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on
{date} _____

.

NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or
deputy clerk.}

_____ Personally known

_____ Produced identification

Type of identification produced _____

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the {choose only **one**} () adoptee () stepparent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____,

{name of business} _____,

{address} _____,

{city} _____, {state} _____, {zip code} _____ {telephone number} _____.

.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW
FORM 12.981(c)(2),
STEPPARENT ADOPTION: CONSENT OF ADULT ADOPTEE'S SPOUSE
(02/18)**

When should this form be used?

This form must be completed by the spouse of an adult who is being adopted.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, the spouse of the adoptee should sign the form before a notary public or deputy clerk. You should file the original with the clerk of the circuit court in the county where the petition for adoption of an adult was filed and keep a copy for your records.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleading or other document electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

Special notes...

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900 (a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____
Division: _____

IN RE: THE ADOPTION OF

_____,
{use name to be given to adult} Adoptee(s).

STEPPARENT ADOPTION: CONSENT OF ADULT ADOPTEE'S SPOUSE

1. I, {full legal name} _____, am the spouse of
{full legal name} _____, who Petitioner,
{full legal name} _____ wishes to adopt.
2. I consent to the adoption of my spouse by Petitioner.
3. I understand my right to choose a person who does not have an employment, professional, or personal relationship with the adoption entity or the prospective adoptive parents to be present when this affidavit is executed and to sign it as a witness. The witness I selected is:
{full legal name} _____.

I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the claims made in this consent and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.

Dated: _____

Signature of Spouse
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Fax Number: _____
Designated E-mail Address(es): _____

Signature of Witness
Printed Name: _____
Business Address: _____
Home Address: _____

Signature of Witness
Printed Name: _____
Business Address: _____
Home Address: _____

Driver's License or
State ID Card No.: _____

Driver's License or
State ID Card No.: _____

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on _____ by _____.

NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

*{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or
deputy clerk.}*

_____ Personally known
_____ Produced identification
_____ Type of identification produced _____

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the () stepparent () adult adoptee's spouse.

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____,
{name of business} _____,
{address} _____,
{city} _____, *{state}* _____, *{zip code}* _____, *{telephone number}* _____.

NAME: _____

CASE NO: _____

NOTICE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LIMITATION OF SERVICES PROVIDED

By signing this disclaimer, the undersigned self-represented litigant acknowledges he/she understands the limitation of services that can be provided by Family Court Self Help personnel.

1. The personnel in this self-help program are not acting as your lawyer or providing legal advice to you.
2. Self-help personnel are not acting on behalf of the Court or any Judge.
3. The presiding Judge in your case may require amendment of a form or substitution of a different form other than any you may have obtained from the Clerk's Office, the self-help office or a legal form provider.
4. The form(s) you file are only a request of the Court. The Judge is not required to grant the relief requested in a form.
5. The personnel in this self-help program cannot tell you what your legal rights or remedies are, represent you in court or tell you how to testify in court.
6. Self-help services are available to all persons who are or will be parties to a family case.
7. The information you give to and receive from self-help personnel is not confidential and may be subject to disclosure at a later date. Nothing you may tell family court personnel is confidential.
8. If another person involved in your case seeks assistance from this self-help program, that person will be given the same type of assistance you receive.
9. I understand that in all cases, it is best to consult with your own attorney, especially if your case presents significant issues regarding children, child support, alimony, retirement or pension benefits, assets or liabilities.

() I can read English.

() I cannot read English; this notice was read to me by:

_____ in _____.
(Name) (Language)

Signature (Litigant)

Date

Signature (Family Law or Clerk Staff)

Date

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE
FORM 12.900(a)
DISCLOSURE FROM NONLAWYER (11/12)**

When should this form be used?

This form must be used when anyone who is **not** a lawyer in good standing with The Florida Bar helps you complete any Florida Family Law Form. Attorneys who are licensed to practice in other states but not Florida, or who have been disbarred or suspended from the practice of law in Florida, are nonlawyers for the purposes of the Florida Family Law Forms and instructions.

The nonlawyer must complete this form and both of you are to sign it before the nonlawyer assists you in completing any Family Law Form.

In addition, on any other form with which a nonlawyer helps you, the nonlawyer shall complete the nonlawyer section located at the bottom of the form unless otherwise specified in the instructions to the form. This is to protect you and be sure that you are informed in advance of the nonlawyer's limitations.

What should I do next?

A copy of this disclosure, signed by both the nonlawyer and the person, must be given to the person to retain and the nonlawyer must keep a copy in the person's file. The nonlawyer shall also keep copies for at least 6 years of all forms given to the person being assisted.

Special Notes

This disclosure form does **NOT** act as or constitute a waiver, disclaimer, or limitation of liability.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent.

DISCLOSURE FROM NONLAWYER

{Name} _____ told me that he/she is a nonlawyer and may not give legal advice, cannot tell me what my rights or remedies are, cannot tell me how to testify in court, and cannot represent me in court.

Rule 10-2.1(b) of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar defines a paralegal as a person who works under the supervision of a member of The Florida Bar and who performs specifically delegated substantive legal work for which a member of The Florida Bar is responsible. Only persons who meet the definition may call themselves paralegals. {Name} _____, informed me that he/she is not a paralegal as defined by the rule and cannot call himself/herself a paralegal.

{Name} _____, told me that he/she may only type the factual information provided by me in writing into the blanks on the form. Except for typing, {name} _____, may not tell me what to put in the form and may not complete the form for me. However, if using a form approved by the Supreme Court of Florida, {name} _____, may ask me factual questions to fill in the blanks on the form and may also tell me how to file the form.

{Choose **one** only}

_____ I can read English.

_____ I cannot read English, but this disclosure was read to me [fill in **both** blanks] by
{name} _____ in {language} _____, which I understand.

Dated: _____

Signature of Party

Signature of **NONLAWYER**

Printed Name: _____

Name of Business: _____

Address: _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.915

DESIGNATION OF CURRENT MAILING AND E-MAIL ADDRESS (08/23)

When should this form be used?

This form should be used to inform the clerk and the other **party** of your current mailing and e-mail address(es) or **any change of address**. It is very important that the court and the other party in your case have your correct address.

A party not represented by an attorney is required to designate a primary e-mail address for **service** unless excused pursuant to Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516(b)(1)(D). A primary and up to two secondary e-mail addresses can be designated. If you do so and the other party is represented by an attorney or has also designated e-mail address(es) for service, e-mail will be the **exclusive means of service**.

If there is any change in your mailing or e-mail address(es), you must complete a new form, file it with the clerk, and serve a copy on any other party or parties in your case.

What should I do next?

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where your case is filed and keep a copy for your records. A copy of this form must be served on any other party in your case. **Service** must be in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

The Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration now require that all

documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration** and you **must** review Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at www.flcourts.org through the link to the Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MUST SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL UNLESS EXCUSED BY THE CLERK.

If a self-represented litigant has been excused from serving documents by e-mail and then elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once that election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

Where can I look for more information?

Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms. The words that are in **bold underline** in these instructions are defined there.

Special notes...

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

Petitioner,

and

Respondent.

DESIGNATION OF CURRENT MAILING AND E-MAIL ADDRESS

I, {full legal name}, _____, certify that:

MAILING ADDRESS:

My current mailing address is:

{Street or Post Office Box} _____

{Apartment, lot, etc.} _____

{City}, _____, {State}, _____, {Zip} _____.

{Telephone No.} _____ {Fax No.} _____.

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

The following is/are my e-mail address(es) for purposes of serving and receiving documents:

Primary e-mail address:

Secondary e-mail address No.1:

Secondary e-mail address No. 2:

I understand that I must keep the clerk's office and the opposing party or parties notified of my current mailing and e-mail address(es) and that all future papers in this lawsuit will be served at the address(es) on record at the clerk's office.

I certify that a copy of this document was [check all used] () e-mailed () mailed () faxed () hand-delivered to the person(s) listed below on {date}_____.

Other party or his/her attorney:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

E-mail Address(es): _____

I HAVE READ EVERY STATEMENT MADE IN THIS DOCUMENT AND EACH STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE STATEMENTS MADE IN THIS DOCUMENT ARE BEING MADE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY, PUNISHABLE AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 837.02, FLORIDA STATUTES.

Signature of Petitioner

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Designated E-Mail Address(es): _____

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the: {choose only **one**} _____ Petitioner _____ Respondent

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____,

{name of business} _____,

{street} _____,

{city} _____, {state} _____, {zip code} _____, {telephone number} _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.900(h), NOTICE OF RELATED CASES (02/24)

When should this form be used?

Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.545(d) requires the **petitioner** in a family law case to file with the court a notice of related cases, if any. Your circuit may also require this form to be filed even if there are no related cases. A case is considered related if:

- it involves the same parties, children, or issues and is pending when the family law case is filed; or
- it affects the court's jurisdiction to proceed; or
- an order in the related case may conflict with an order on the same issues in the new case; or
- an order in the new case may conflict with an order in the earlier case.

This form is used to provide the required notice to the court.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. It must be **filed** with the **clerk of the circuit court** with the initial pleading in the family law case.

What should I do next?

A copy of the form must be served on the presiding judge, either the chief judge or the family law administrative judge, and all parties in the related cases. You should also keep a copy for your records. **Service** must be in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.516.

Where can I look for more information?

Before proceeding, you should read "General Information for Self-Represented Litigants" found at the beginning of these forms. The words that are in "**bold and underline**" in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.545(d).

Special notes . . .

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms **must** also put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner,
and

_____,
Respondent.

NOTICE OF RELATED CASES

1. Petitioner submits this Notice of Related Cases as required by Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.545(d). A related case may be an open or closed civil, criminal, guardianship, domestic violence, juvenile delinquency, juvenile dependency, or domestic relations case. A case is "related" to this family law case if it involves any of the same parties, children, or issues and it is pending at the time the party files a family case; if it affects the court's jurisdiction to proceed; if an order in the related case may conflict with an order on the same issues in the new case; or if an order in the new case may conflict with an order in the earlier litigation.

[check **one** only]

____ **There are no related cases.**

____ **The following are the related cases (add additional pages if necessary):**

Related Case No. 1

Case Name(s): _____

Petitioner _____

Respondent _____

Case No.: _____ Division: _____

Type of Proceeding: [check **all** that apply]

____ Dissolution of Marriage

____ Paternity

____ Custody

____ Adoption

____ Child Support

____ Support for Dependent Adult Children

____ Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings

____ Juvenile Dependency

____ Juvenile Delinquency

____ Termination of Parental Rights

____ Criminal

____ Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat

____ Mental Health

____ Violence or Stalking Injunctions

____ Other {specify} _____

State where case was decided or is pending: ____ Florida ____ Other: {specify} _____

Name of Court where case was decided or is pending (for example, Fifth Circuit Court, Marion County, Florida): _____

Title of last Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Date of Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Relationship of cases check **all** that apply]:

- ☐ pending case involves same parties, children, or issues;
- ☐ may affect court's jurisdiction;
- ☐ order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;
- ☐ order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: _____

Related Case No. 2

Case Name(s): _____

Petitioner _____

Respondent _____

Case No.: _____ Division: _____

Type of Proceeding: [check **all** that apply]

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dissolution of Marriage | <input type="checkbox"/> Paternity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Custody | <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Support for Dependent Adult Children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Dependency | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Delinquency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Termination of Parental Rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Violence or Stalking Injunctions | <input type="checkbox"/> Other {specify} _____ |

State where case was decided or is pending: ☐ Florida ☐ Other: {specify} _____

Name of Court where case was decided or is pending (for example, Fifth Circuit Court, Marion County, Florida): _____

Title of last Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Date of Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Relationship of cases check all that apply]:

- ☐ pending case involves same parties, children, or issues.
- ☐ may affect court's jurisdiction;
- ☐ order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;
- ☐ order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: _____

Related Case No. 3

Case Name(s): _____

Petitioner _____

Respondent _____

Case No.: _____ Division: _____

Type of Proceeding: [check **all** that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> Dissolution of Marriage	<input type="checkbox"/> Paternity
<input type="checkbox"/> Custody	<input type="checkbox"/> Adoption
<input type="checkbox"/> Child Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Support for Dependent Adult Children
<input type="checkbox"/> Modification/Enforcement/Contempt Proceedings	
<input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Dependency	<input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Delinquency
<input type="checkbox"/> Termination of Parental Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> Criminal
<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic/Sexual/Dating/Repeat	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health
<input type="checkbox"/> Violence or Stalking Injunctions	<input type="checkbox"/> Other {specify} _____

State where case was decided or is pending: _____ Florida _____ Other: {specify} _____

Name of Court where case was decided or is pending (*for example, Fifth Circuit Court, Marion County, Florida*): _____

Title of last Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Date of Court Order/Judgment (if any): _____

Relationship of cases check all that apply]:

☐ pending case involves same parties, children, or issues;
☐ may affect court's jurisdiction;
☐ order in related case may conflict with an order in this case;
☐ order in this case may conflict with previous order in related case.

Statement as to the relationship of the cases: _____

2. [check **one** only]

☐ I **do not** request coordination of litigation in any of the cases listed above.

☐ I **do** request coordination of the following cases: _____

3. [check **all** that apply]

☐ Assignment to one judge

☐ Coordination of existing cases will conserve judicial resources and promote an efficient determination of these case because: _____

4. The Petitioner acknowledges a continuing duty to inform the court of any cases in this or any other state that could affect the current proceeding.

Dated: _____

Petitioner's Signature
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Fax Number: _____
E-mail Address(es): _____

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that I delivered a copy of this Notice of Related Cases to the _____ County Sheriff's Department or a certified process server for service on the Respondent, and [**check all used**] () e-mailed () mailed () hand delivered, a copy to {name} _____, who is the [**check all that apply**] () judge assigned to new case, () chief judge or family law administrative judge, () {name} _____ a party to the related case, () {name} _____, a party to the related case on {date} _____.

Signature of Petitioner/Attorney for Petitioner
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone Number: _____
E-mail Address(es): _____
Florida Bar Number: _____

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the {choose **only one**}: () Petitioner () Respondent.

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____
{name of business} _____
{address} _____
{city} _____ {state} _____, {telephone number} _____.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.981(a)(6), MOTION FOR SEARCH OF THE PUTATIVE FATHER REGISTRY (11/15)

When should this form be used?

This form should be used when a stepparent is adopting his or her **spouse's** child. Section 63.054, Florida Statutes, requires that a search of Florida's Putative Father Registry be conducted in every adoption proceeding. The Office of Vital Statistics of the Department of Health has an application available called Florida Putative Father Registry - Application for Search which should be completed and attached to this form. The Office of Vital Statistics is allowed to charge for searching the registry. You may wish to contact that office in advance to find out what amount and method of payment will be accepted.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. The name to be given to the adoptee **after** the adoption should be used in the heading of the **petition**. The stepparent is the **petitioner**, because he or she is the one who is asking the court for legal action. You must have your signature witnessed by a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**.

After completing this form, you should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where you have filed the **Joint Petition for Adoption by Stepparent**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.981(b)(1) and keep a copy for your records. These family law forms contain an **Order Granting Motion for Search of Putative Father Registry**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.981(a)(7), which the judge may use. You should check with the clerk, family law intake staff or judicial assistant to see if you need to provide this form order to the judge with your motion. If so, you should type or print the heading, including the circuit, county, case number, division, and the child(ren)'s name, and leave the rest blank for the judge to complete.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

What should I do next?

If the judge grants your motion, you will need to take the order, your completed application, and any fee to the Office of Vital Statistics. That office will conduct the search and file the results with the clerk of court. You may call the clerk's office to determine when the results have been filed in order to set a final hearing.

Where can I look for more information?

Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the

beginning of these forms. See Chapter 63, Florida Statutes, and Florida Family Law Rule 12.200(a)(2) for further information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you **must** review Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at www.flcourts.org through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO. If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

Special notes...

THIS ADOPTION MAY AFFECT THE ADOPTEE'S INHERITANCE.

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900 (a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF

_____,
{use name to be given to the minor child} Adoptee.

MOTION FOR SEARCH OF THE PUTATIVE FATHER REGISTRY

Petitioner, *{full legal name}* _____, files this Motion for Search of the Putative Father Registry, pursuant to Chapter 63, Florida Statutes, and states:

1. This is an action for adoption of a minor by the child's stepparent, who is the Petitioner. .
2. Section 63.054, Florida Statutes, requires that in every adoption, a search of the Putative Father Registry maintained by the Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics be conducted. Section 63.0541, Florida Statutes, makes information maintained by the Registry confidential and exempt from public disclosure, except that it may be disclosed to adoption entities, registrant unmarried biological fathers, and the court, upon issuance of a court order concerning a petitioner acting pro se.
3. The Florida Putative Father Registry - Application for Search is completed and attached to this Motion.

WHEREFORE, I request that this Court enter an Order Granting Motion for Search of the Putative Father Registry.

I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the claims made in this motion and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.

Dated: _____

Signature of Party
Printed Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Fax Number: _____
Designated E-mail Address(es): _____

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on _____ by _____.

NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

{Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk.}

_____ Personally known
_____ Produced identification
_____ Type of identification produced _____

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the petitioner.

This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____,
{name of business} _____,
{address} _____,
{city} _____, *{state}* _____, *{zip code}* _____, *{telephone number}* _____.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF

_____,
{use name to be given to the minor child} Adoptee.

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR SEARCH OF THE PUTATIVE FATHER REGISTRY

Upon consideration of Petitioner's Motion for Search of the Putative Father Registry, this Court finds:

1. This is an action for adoption of a minor by the child's stepparent, Petitioner, who is proceeding pro se.
2. Section 63.054, Florida Statutes, requires that in every adoption, a search of the Putative Father Registry maintained by the Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics be conducted. Section 63.0541, Florida Statutes, makes information maintained by the Registry confidential and exempt, except that it may be disclosed to adoption entities, registrant unmarried biological fathers, the birth mother, and the court, upon issuance of a court order concerning a petitioner acting pro se.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Office of Vital Statistics, Department of Health shall conduct a search of the Putative Father Registry upon receipt of a completed application and payment of any authorized fee.
2. The State Registrar shall issue a certificate indicating the results of such search which shall be filed in this proceeding by transmitting the certificate to the clerk of court.

DONE and ORDERED on: _____ in _____, Florida.

Circuit Judge

I certify that a copy of the *{name of document(s)}* _____
was () mailed () faxed and mailed () e-mailed () hand-delivered to the parties and to any other
persons or entities listed below on *{date}* _____.

By: Clerk of Court, Designee, or Judicial Assistant

Petitioner (or his or her attorney)

Other: _____

State Registrar, Office of Vital Statistics

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.910(b), PROCESS SERVICE MEMORANDUM (11/15)

When should this form be used?

You should use this form to give the sheriff's department (or private process server) instructions for serving the other party in your case with the **Summons: Personal Service on an Individual**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.910(a), and other papers to be served. On this form you can tell the sheriff's department the best times to find the person at work and/or at home. You can also include a map to the other person's home or work place to help the sheriff find the person and deliver the summons. Do not forget to attach to the summons a copy of your initial petition and any other papers you want personally served on the other party.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should **file** the original with the clerk of the circuit court in the county where your petition was filed and attach a copy to the **Summons: Personal Service on an Individual**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.910(a). You should also keep a copy for your records.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

Where can I look for more information?

Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms. You should read the instructions for **Summons: Personal Service on an Individual**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.910(a), for additional information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-SERVICE ELECTION

After the initial service of process of the petition or supplemental petition by the Sheriff or certified process server, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all documents required or permitted to be served on the other party must be served by electronic mail (e-mail) except in certain circumstances. **You must strictly comply with the format requirements set forth in the Rules of Judicial Administration.** If you elect to participate in electronic service, which means serving or receiving pleadings by electronic mail (e-mail), or through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, you **must** review Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516. You may find this rule at www.flcourts.org through the link to the Rules of Judicial Administration provided under either Family Law Forms: Getting Started, or Rules of Court in the A-Z Topical Index.

SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS MAY SERVE DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL; HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT

REQUIRED TO DO SO. If a self-represented litigant elects to serve and receive documents by e-mail, the procedures must always be followed once the initial election is made.

To serve and receive documents by e-mail, you must designate your e-mail addresses by using the **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915, and you must provide your e-mail address on each form on which your signature appears. Please **CAREFULLY** read the rules and instructions for: **Certificate of Service (General)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.914; **Designation of Current Mailing and E-mail Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915; and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516.

Special notes...

If you fear that disclosing your address would put you in danger because you are the victim of sexual battery, aggravated child abuse, stalking, aggravated stalking, harassment, aggravated battery, or domestic violence, you should complete a **Request for Confidential Filing of Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(h), file it with the clerk, and write confidential in the space provided on the petition.

Nonlawyer. Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900 (a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

_____,
Petitioner,

and

_____,
Respondent,

PROCESS SERVICE MEMORANDUM

TO: _____ Sheriff of _____ County, Florida; _____ Division
_____ Private process server: _____

Please serve the *{name of document(s)}* _____

in the above-styled cause upon:

Party: *{full legal name}* _____

Address or location for service: _____

Work Address: _____

If the party to be served owns, has, and/or is known to have guns or other weapons, describe what type of weapon(s): _____

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: _____

Dated: _____

Signature of Party

*Printed Name: _____

*Address: _____

*City, State, Zip: _____

*Telephone Number: _____

*Fax Number: _____

*Designated E-mail Address(es) _____

*** Please see the Special Notes section in the instructions to this form regarding Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(h), Request for Confidential Filing of Address, which may be used if you need to keep your addresses or telephone numbers confidential for safety reasons.**

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:

[fill in **all** blanks] This form was prepared for the Petitioner. This form was completed with the assistance of:

{name of individual} _____,

{name of business} _____,

{address} _____,

{city} _____, *{state}* _____, *{zip code}* _____, *{telephone number}* _____

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Petitioner

Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Email Address _____

Case No: _____

Division: _____

And

Respondent

Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Email Address _____

Check only one:

Type of Case: () Dissolution of Marriage () Modification of Custody / Visitation
() Enforcement () Modification of Alimony / Child Support () Establish Visitation
() Paternity () Stepparent Adoption () Temporary Custody () ***Other Domestic***

Check all that apply

Other pending cases of final judgments: () Child Support Enforcement / Department of
Revenue case () Dependency / Department of Children and Families case () Domestic
Violence case () Other: _____

Case Number(s) _____

REQUEST FOR HEARING

I, _____, Petitioner in this case, affirm to the best of my
knowledge and belief that **all** necessary requirements for a hearing have been met as follows:

(Initial each item below)

_____ All required forms and documents that were listed in the instructions provided to me were
filed with the Clerk of Court. All forms and documents were filled out completely, signed and notarized
where required.

_____ The Petition and forms were properly served on the other party by () Service by Sheriff
() Service by Publication or Posting () Hand Delivery () An Acceptance & Waiver of Service
was filed with the case.

_____ The respondent has filed all the required forms or I have followed the instructions to request
a Default, and/or Waive or Compel the other party. If an Order to Compel was issued, the time given the
other party to comply has passed.

I understand that my file will be reviewed by court staff within the next 90 days.

A Case Status Report will be provided to me with a court date or further instructions to proceed.

Date Signed

Petitioner's Signature

Daytime Telephone Number



JASON D. ENGLISH, ESQ.
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER
SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller
Recorder of Deeds
Clerk and Accountant of the Board of County Commissioners
Custodian of County Funds
County Auditor

Civil
4025 Avalon Blvd
Milton, Florida 32583
P O Box 472
Milton, Florida 32572
Telephone: (850) 981-5675
Fax: (850) 626-7849
www.santarosaclerk.com

RE: Department of Health Certified Statement of Final Decree of Adoption Form

Please complete and return the enclosed Department of Health Certified Statement of Final Decree of Adoption form to the **Clerk's Office**. You are required to complete sections A and B. Upon the filing of the document, there will be a \$7.00 certification fee charged by the Clerk of Court.

For the issuance of a new birth certificate, a check or money order in the amount of \$20.00, made payable to "The Office of Vital Statistics", is required. This fee includes the issuance of *one* certification of the new birth certificate. **You will forward the payment and the certified form to Vital Statistics.**

Please contact the Office of Vital Statistics, (904) 359-6900 ext. 9001, for any questions you have regarding the completion of this form.



State of Florida
Department of Health - Office of Vital Statistics

CERTIFIED STATEMENT OF FINAL DECREE OF ADOPTION

(Important – Read Information and Instructions on reverse side before completion.)

A. INFORMATION REGARDING ORIGINAL STATUS OF CHILD

Birth Certificate No. _____
(If Known)

1a. Child's Name _____
First Middle Last

1b. Child's Sex _____

1c. Child's Date of Birth _____ 1d. Child's Place of Birth _____
City State Country

2a. Name of Father/Parent _____
First Middle Last Name Prior to First Marriage (if applicable) Suffix

2b. Father's/Parent's Race _____

3a. Name of Mother/Parent _____
First Middle Last Name Prior to First Marriage (if applicable) Suffix

3b. Mother's/Parent's Race _____

B. INFORMATION FOR A NEW CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH

1. Child's Name After Adoption _____
(As shown in Final Judgment of Adoption) First Middle Last Suffix

FATHER/PARENT MOTHER/PARENT

2a. Name: _____
First Middle Last Suffix

3a. Name: _____
First Middle Last Suffix

2b. Name prior to first marriage (if applicable) _____ 3b. Name prior to first marriage (if applicable) _____

2c. Birth Date: _____ 3c. Birth Date: _____

2d. Birth Place: _____ 3d. Birth Place: _____

2e. Race: _____ 3e. Race: _____

2f. Social Security Number: _____ 3f. Social Security Number: _____

4. Residence Address of Adoptive Parent(s) at Time of Adoption:

Street, Apt. No. or Rural Route Number City, Town, or Location County State Zip Code Inside City Limit (Y/N)

5. Mailing address if different from residence address: _____

6. Is this a single parent adoption? ____ Yes ____ No

7. Is this a stepparent or other relative adoption? ____ Yes ____ No If yes, please state relationship _____

8. Person completing Part A and B of this Form:

8a. Name: _____
Type or Print

8b. Relationship/Title _____
(If agency, list agency name & License #)

8c. Signature _____
Signature of Person Completing Form

8d. Telephone _____
Area Code and Number

9a. Attorney/Pro Se Petitioner _____
Type or Print

9b. Bar No. _____ 9c. Telephone _____
Area Code and Number

9d. Address _____
Street City State Zip Code

"For infant adoptions: If you are interested in obtaining information on Florida's Health Start Program and potential services available for your infant, please call the Healthy Baby Hotline at 1-800-45- BABY (1-800-451-2229) and identify yourself as an adoptive parent."

C. CERTIFICATE OF CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

Court Docket No. _____

1. On the _____ day of _____, 20____, the Circuit Court of _____ County, _____
Judge _____ presiding, ordered a decree of adoption in the case of the child and the parents described above.

2a. Signed and Sealed by _____ 2b. Date _____
Clerk of Circuit Court

INSTRUCTIONS

TYPE OR PRINT IN BLACK INK

(Prompt submission of this statement, when properly completed, will ensure the timely filing of a new birth certificate.)

Pursuant to §. 63.152, Florida Statutes, within 30 days after entry of a judgment of adoption, the clerk of the court, and in agency adoptions, any child-placing agency licensed by the department, shall prepare a certified statement of the entry for the State Registrar of Vital Statistics on a form provided by the registrar. A new birth record containing the necessary information supplied by the certificate shall be issued by the registrar on application of the adoptive parent(s) or the adopted person.

Provide all information. This will ensure timely filing of a new birth certificate. Providing contact information is critical in case contact with the person completing the form and/or the attorney is needed to obtain additional or clarifying information.

Section B. Complete all information regarding both mother/parent and father/parent regardless of whether a stepparent adoption or two new parents. This information is required for completion of a new birth certificate. In the case of a stepparent adoption, the information allows us to verify information already on file.

Fee: Florida law requires a \$20.00 fee made payable to “The Office of Vital Statistics” for filing a new birth certificate for a Florida birth resulting from adoption. This fee includes the issuance of one certification of the new certificate. Certification of the new certificate cannot be provided prior to the payment of this fee. If the fee is accompanying this statement, please **DO NOT** send cash. Please send a check or money order made payable to the Office of Vital Statistics. DH Form 429, Application for Amendment to Florida Birth Record, should be used when remitting the fee. This will ensure that the new certificate is mailed to the appropriate party as listed on the application.

If the fee is not remitted at the time of the submission of this statement, the birth record, if the birth occurred in Florida, shall be amended and the record flagged for collection of the Amendment/Processing fee at the time certification of the new record is requested.

Upon receipt of the report of adoption from a clerk of the court, as heretofore provided for, or upon receipt of a certified copy of a final decree of adoption, together with all necessary information, the State Registrar shall make and file a new birth certificate. All names and particulars entered in the new certificate shall refer to the adoptive parents. The original birth record and court documents shall be sealed only to be opened pursuant to a court order or other provision as may be provided for in Florida law.

Form is also used for adoption of foreign child pursuant to §. 382.017, F.S. which allow the creation of a Certificate of Foreign Birth. Forms may be obtained through our website below.

OUT OF STATE BIRTHS – ADOPTIONS GRANTED IN FLORIDA: Although birth certificates for these children are not placed on file in our state, the adoption report sent to our office from the court shall be forwarded to the appropriate registration authority in the state of birth. **DO NOT** remit the fee when the birth occurred outside of the State of Florida.

If you have any questions regarding the completion of this form, you may contact the Office of Vital Statistics at (904) 359-6900, ext. 9001.

MAIL THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT AND APPLICATION (DH 429) TO:

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS
ATTN: ADOPTION UNIT
P.O. BOX 210,
Jacksonville, FL 32231-0042
(Street Address: 1217 North Pearl Street, Jacksonville, Florida, 32202)

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.floridahealth.gov/certificates