COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

for the State of Delaware

CHANGE OF NAME PETITIONS

KENT COUNTY

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

CHANGE OF NAME INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHILDREN (14 & Under)

1. This packet includes 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. 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 two (2) and go on to number three (3).

2. Notice of the name change must be served upon the natural parent not involved with 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 must be 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 along 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 a seventy-eight dollar ($78.00) 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 Clerk at the time this petition is received) 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 sent to you as to your hearing date. Please include the address and telephone number where 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 # _____

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

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

_____
NOTARY PUBLIC

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 a seventy-eight dollar ($78.00) 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 # _____

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

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

_____
NOTARY PUBLIC

CHANGE OF NAME INSTRUCTIONS FOR
PETITIONER'S 18+ YEARS OF AGE

1. This packet includes 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. The Court will accept the original paperwork only. Copies will not be accepted.

2. 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 to the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas at Kent County Courthouse, 414 Federal Street, Dover, Delaware to be filed. There is a seventy-eight dollar ($78.00) filing fee, which includes a Court Security Assessment.

3. To file this Petition in the Court of Common Pleas, Kent County, you must be a 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 received) If you or your spouse is in the military, you must claim Delaware as your residency.

4. 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.

5. 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 RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF	)	
	)	C.A. NO.
	)	
_____	)	
Petitioner	)	
to	)	
	)	
_____	)	

PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE

1. Petitioner, whose address is _____ _____ is a resident of Kent County, State of Delaware.
2. Petitioner desires to change his/her name from _____ _____to _____.
3. The reason for proposed name change is _____ _____.
4. There are no creditors or other persons who will be defrauded or adversely affected by said name change.
5. There are no criminal proceedings pending against Petitioner.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully prays that the Court enter an Order changing his/her name from _____ to _____, pursuant to 10 Delaware Code. Sections 5901 to 5905.

Dated: _____ _____

Petitioner

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, _____ who being by me duly sworn according to the law, deposes and says that he/she is Petitioner above named, and that the facts in the Petition are true and correct.

_____
Petitioner

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

_____
NOTARY PUBLIC