

NOTICE: These instructions are not intended as a substitute for legal advice from you attorney. These are general instructions only. Laws and procedures are subject to change. Questions of a legal nature should be directed to your own attorney. REMEMBER: The employees of the Circuit Clerk's office are not attorneys and cannot by state statute assist you in the completion of the attached form.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING A PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME WHEN THE SOLE APPLICANT IS AN ADULT

1. Before hearing on a Petition for Change of Name is held, a notice of the intended application must be given by publication in a newspaper which is published in the municipality where the applicant resides, and, if none, in a newspaper published in the county where the applicant resides. A sample form of publication is attached to these instructions.
 - a. There must be publications for 3 consecutive weeks with the first publication being at least 6 weeks before the hearing date. You may obtain a hearing date when you file the petition.
 - b. The notice which is published must include the current name of the applicant, the name sought to be assumed and the date upon which the Petition will be heard.
 - c. A Certificate of Publication must be obtained from the newspaper as proof of having given the required notice.
2. The Petition to be filed must be typed with a proper caption and include the name of the applicant then held, the name sought to be assumed, the residence of the applicant, the length of time the applicant has resided in Illinois and the state or country of the applicant's birth. The Petition must be signed by the person petitioning and be verified by the affidavit of a credible person. A form for the Petition is attached.
3. On the hearing date, the applicant must appear in court and present evidence to prove the Petition to the satisfaction of the Judge hearing the case. If an objection has been filed, that must also be heard and ruled upon by the Judge. If the Petition for Change of Name is granted, the applicant must present to the Judge a proposed Judgment or Order for change of name to be signed by the Judge.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STEPHENSON COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF :)
)
)
)
)
_____)

CASE NO.: _____

For Change of Name

PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Now comes the Petitioner and in support of the petition for change of same states:

My current name is _____.

I am a resident of the State of Illinois and have resided in the county of Stephenson in said State for more than six months prior to the filing of the Petition; that I desire to change my name to:

That my place of birth and age are as follows: _____.

I have not been convicted of a felony, misdemeanor criminal sexual abuse when the victim of the offense at the time of its commission was under eighteen years of age, misdemeanor sexual exploitation of a child, misdemeanor indecent solicitation of an adult in this state or in any other state within 10 years from completion or discharge from the sentence. I further state that I am not required to register as a sex offender under the Sex Offender Registration Act.

WHEREFORE, your Petitioner prays that his/her name be changed from its present form to _____ as his/her legal name.

Current Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

State of Illinois)

County of Stephenson) SS **AFFIDAVIT**

_____, being duly sworn on oath deposes and says that I am acquainted with _____ who resides at: _____
(Print Name of Petitioner)

_____ who is the petitioner in this cause, and who has signed this petition; that I read this petition and know the contents thereof, and the matters and things stated are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this _____ day of _____, _____.

Notary Public

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STEPHENSON COUNTY

CASE NO. _____

LEGAL NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on _____, 20_____, at _____ am/pm in Courtroom No. 3 at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 N. Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois.

I will have my petition heard in the said Court for the change of my name from:

_____ to that of
_____ pursuant to statute in such case made and provided.

Dated: _____, 20_____.

Petitioner Signature

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STEPHENSON COUNTY

Case No. _____

Petitioner

ORDER FOR CHANGE OF NAME

This cause coming before this Court on the Petition for Change of Name filed herein, the Petitioner being present personally and this Court having heard the testimony of Petitioner, finding that the required Certificate of Publication has been filed, and being fully advised in the premises, finds that said Petition should be allowed.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the Petitioner's name is change to

_____.

ENTERED THIS _____ day of _____, 20____.

Judge