Eduardo J. Sanchez, M.D., M.P.H. Commissioner of Health Physical Address Only: 1100 West 49<sup>th</sup> Street Austin, Texas 78756-3199

ProtectTexo

Texas Department of Health

http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/bvs 1-888-963-7111 x7388 Ben Delgado Chief Operating Officer

Nick Curry, M.D., M.P.H. Executive Deputy Commissioner

Dear Registry Applicant:

Thank you for contacting the Bureau of Vital Statistics= Central Adoption Registry. Our service matches adult adoptees, birth parents, and biological siblings who are looking for one another. We have the authority to view the contents of the original sealed file held here at the Bureau of Vital Statistics to aide us in this process. This gives one the comfort of knowing that there is no doubt or guessing on our part that when we make a match, it will be with an actual birth child, and his or her birth parent or birth sibling.

Every year our registry makes increasingly more matches. We welcome you to register with us by completing the enclosed two-page application. Upon completion, mail it and the following items to:

### P.O. Box 140123, Austin, TX 78714-0123:

- A \$30.00 check or money order, payable to: **BVS-CAR**. If you are an adoptee, please see additional services, as described below.
- Proof of your age and identity (a copy of a government issued photo ID) and, if your name has changed by marriage or other legal means, provide in addition to the above, a copy of your birth or marriage certificate, or other identification that shows your maiden or given name.
- If you are a birth sibling, please provide us in addition to the photo ID, a copy of your birth certificate.

When we make a match, you will be notified by certified mail. This match may occur a few months after you register or years later when the other party registers. At that point, you will be instructed to attend at least one hour of counseling designed to prepare you for the reunion. A counselor of your choice is used, but he or she must have expertise in post-adoption issues. A list of specific topics we would like for you to discuss with your counselor will be sent at the same time you are notified of a match.

# Central Adoption Registry Page 2

# **Information for the Adoptee:**

1. If you were placed for adoption through a child-placing agency, you may be eligible to request a non-identified or redacted copy of your birth/adoption record from the specific adoption agency files. We maintain some out-of-business child-placing agency records. If you were placed for adoption by one of the agencies listed below and would like a redacted copy of your record, please indicate this on your application. An additional fee will be assessed and a cost estimate will be sent for your approval.

- Adopt a Special Kid, Texas
- Adoption Inc., Dallas
- Adoption Associates, Houston
- Care Connection San Marcos
- Catholic Charities San Angelo
- Child & Family Services, Austin
- Children's Aid Society of West Texas, Wichita Falls
- Children's Service Bureau, San Antonio
- Children's Shelter of San Antonio
- Christ's Haven, Keller
- Direct Adoption Center, Midland
- Family Counseling & Children's Services, Waco

- Girl's Haven, Orange
- Leslie Thacker, Houston
- Memorial Hospital, Dumas
- Presbyterian Children's Home, Dallas
- Quality of Life, Dallas
- Rest Cottage, Pilot Point
- Texas Child Placing Agency, Houston
- Texas Children's Home Finding Society, San Antonio
- Therapeikos, Abilene
- Volunteers of America, Ft Worth
- Waco State Home, Waco

2. If interested in knowing the identity of the court and the cause number of your adoption, please submit an additional \$9 fee (total of \$39) to us when sending in your application. The adopting court requires this information if you decide to petition the court to unseal the adoption record, based on good cause.

<u>All Applicants</u>: The registration process may take as long as 45 days. Please do not be alarmed if you do not hear from us before that period has elapsed. Though we receive a great many applications, we will attend to yours just as soon as possible. If we may be of further assistance or to answer any questions, please call 1-888-963-7111 x7388 or x6279, write to, or email us. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patricia Molina y Vedia Program Specialist

Enclosure



# Texas Voluntary Adoption Registry INTERNET REGISTRATION APPLICATION

Part I: REGISTRANT		MATI	ON (all ap	oplicants con	nplete this	s se	ection)						вv5 6/99	-orm 227 I
NAME — First Middle				Last						Maiden Name Suffix			Suffix	
OTHER NAMES USED (including married, aliases, nicknames)											Sex			
Birth Date Age Social Security Number (optional)						E-mail address (optional)								
Mailing Address for registry correspondence				City				State		Zip				
Telephone (include Area Code) Birth City							Birth County			Birth State/Country				
I am: <i>(check all that apply</i>	/) th Mother		Birth Father	. 🗌 Sibling										
Part II: INFORMATION TO BE COMPLETED BY ADOPTEE (complete as many items as possible)														
How old were you when you were placed in your adoptive home?						Date of adoption or approximate year								
Adoptive Mother's name (including maiden name)				Date of E	f Birth Her religious affilia			filiat	on What city and/or county were your adoptiv parents living in when you were placed wi them?					
Adoptive Father's name				Date of E	Birth	irth His religious affiliat			ion					
Was an adoption agency used?  Yes No Unknown If yes, state name of agency, address & phone no.					known	Attorney's Name,				Name, ac	, address & phone no.			
Was child welfare or child protective services If yes, where was the chil involved? Yes No Unknown removed from care (city a					vas the child care (city a	t living when nd/or county)?						Year of	removal	
Name of Birth Mother  Unknown Her date of birth and he time of your birth						age at Delivering Doctor'				Doctor's	s name			
				His date of birth and his age at time of your birth				Are you aware of any siblings?  Yes  No If yes, please complete Part IV. Unknown						
Part III: INFORMATI If you are lo	ON TO I oking f	BE CO	OMPLETI ore than c	ED BY BIRT	H PARE	NT mp	(complete lete a sep	e a bara	s much as	s poss ation f	ible) or eac	ch child.		
If you are looking for more than one child, please complete a separate application for each child.         Birth name of child (First, Middle, Last, Maiden)       Unknown       Adoptive name of child (First, Middle, Last, Maiden)       Unknown														
Date of birth of child (If unknown, give year and approximate time of year)					Sex									
Hospital or maternity home					City and/or County of Birth & State				Delivering Doctor's Name					
Did the birth mother use an alias at the hospital If yes, state name u or maternity home? If Yes No Unknown					ised.				Birth mother's religious affiliation					
Birth mother's full name (include maiden name and all married names)						Date of birth and age at child's birth State/city of birth								
Birth father's name and last known address						Date of birth and age at child's birth State/city of birth								
Was the birth mother married at the time of this child's birth?						If yes, please provide husband's name								
Was the child placed with  Yes No If yes, name of agency an adoption agency?					Name of attorney or law firm									
Was child welfare or child protective services involved?       If yes, where was the c removed from care (cit					was the ch n care (city	child living when Year of removal y and/or county)?								
Other birth children y	ou are n	ot sea	rching for	r:										
				en Name				Place of Birth City/State			Name of Other Birth Parent and Date of Birth			

BVS Form 2271 Page 2 (6/99)

# Part IV: INFORMATION TO BE COMPLETED BY BIRTH-SIBLING (complete as many items as possible) If there is more than one sibling you are searching for, please duplicate this page, as needed.

Is the sibling you are looking for a:	u related by:		at order in the biological mother's family is this child? ample, first of five)				Male  Female		
Adoptive name of child (First, Middle, L		Birth Name of Child			Unknown				
Date of birth of child	City of Birth		County of Birth			Hospital			
Birth mother's name, include (maiden na married names.	Her date of birth and age at time of child's birth			Her city/state of birth		Her religious affiliation			
Was an alias used by the birth mother a the hospital or maternity home?	o 🗌 Unk	Unknown If yes, sta			ate named used				
Birth father's name	Birth father's date of birth a			age His city/state of birth					
Was the birth mother married at the time of this child's birth? If yes, please provide her husband's name, his date of birth.									
Was an adoption agency used?     If yes, name of agency     Name of attorney or law firm       Yes     No     Unknown									
Was child welfare or child protective ser	yes, whe	where was the child living when removed from care (city and/or county)? and iom?							
If you are a sibling, please provide: Your birth mother's full name including maiden and all married names.				Your birth father's full name 🗌 Unknown					
If you are adopted, your adopted or legal mother's full name, including (maiden) and date of birth.				If you are adopted, your adopted or legal father's full name, including date of birth					
Why do you believe you have a biologic	al sibling(s)?		I						
Names of birth siblings you are not look	ng for Maiden N		ate of Birth	Place	e of Birth	n Half-Sibling or Full-Sibling	Name	of Birth Parents	
							Mother Father		
						🗌 Full	Mother		
							Father Mother		
						🗌 Half	Father		

#### Part V: COMMENTS SECTION (story of placement, additional information not listed above) Use separate page, if needed.

### Part VI: ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE THIS SECTION

I am willing to allow my identity to be disclosed to those registrants eligible to learn	n my identity no						
I authorize the administrator of the registry to inspect all vital statistics records, con and agency records including confidential records.							
I consent to the disclosure of my identity after my death							
For adoptees only: I want to be informed if registry records indicate that a biological sibling has also registered							
Your application is good for 99 years unless you state a shorter period of time here							
I certify that the information contained in this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.							
X Signature	Date						