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STATE OF ARIZONA NAME CHANGE MINOR PACKET Control Number - AZ -NAME-2

This packet contains the following:

- 1. <u>Instructions</u>;
- 2. <u>Forms List</u>; and
- 3. <u>Access to Arizona Law Summary</u>.

I. EXPLANATION OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

- A. In Arizona, an action for a court ordered Change of Name begins with the filing of an Application for Change in the Superior Court in the county in which they reside. The Application must contain certain information. The forms in this packet include the necessary information for a Minor Name Change in the State of Arizona.
- B. You can use this packet if:
 - ► The name change is in the best interests of the minor.
 - ► There is a proper and reasonable cause for the requested change of name.
 - ➤ You are not requesting the change of name to avoid debts or defraud creditors.
 - ► The application is filed by the parent(s), guardian ad litem, or next friend of the minor.

II. WHAT FORMS ARE INCLUDED

- A. <u>Application for Change of Name</u> (AZ-NC-200) This document states the reasons and other required details for your name change.
- B. <u>Consent of Other Parent to Minor Name Change</u> (AZ-NC-201) This document provides the written consent of any necessary individuals who are not a party to the action.
- C. <u>Consent of Minor to Name Change</u> (AZ-NC-205) This form is used if the minor is 14 or older to show the minor agrees to the name change.
- D. <u>Notice of Hearing</u> (AZ-NC-202) Notice that your Application for Change of Name has been filed and the matter has been set for hearing. This should be published in the newspaper prior to the hearing.
- E. <u>Order of Name Change</u> (AZ-NC-203) This is the final statement of the legalities and terms of your name change. Once this form is signed by the Judge and filed with the court, the name change is effective.
- F. <u>Civil Cover Sheet</u> (AZ-NC-103) This form requests required information for the Court's use. This form is available from the Clerk at the time of filing.
- G. <u>Affidavit of Service by Mail</u> (AZ-NC-204) This document demonstrates for the court that proper service was made upon interested parties.

If you <u>did not</u> order a completion package and need access to the download page again for any of the above forms, please check your email for a link to that will redisplay the page for you.

III. PROCEDURE FOR CHANGE OF NAME (MINOR) FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA

- A. Preliminary Note:
 - 1. The attached forms may be completed by:
 - a. Printing the forms and completing by hand. Use black ink and print neatly.
 - b. Printing the forms and completing using a typewriter.
 - c. By completing the forms on your computer using a word processing program and then printing the forms.
 - 2. Use complete names and not initials. Check your spelling carefully, a misspelled word can delay your name change.
 - 3. Print three (3) complete sets of forms.
 - 4. All forms with a heading the name of the court, the Applicant's name, the case number, and the name of the document require that the heading be completed. You will need to add the name of the court and the <u>full</u> name of the Applicant. The "Case No." will be assigned by the court clerk at the time of filing.
 - 5. Forms that require your signature and include a notary block MUST be signed in the presence of the notary or court clerk who will complete the acknowledgement. Use your complete name first name, middle name, last name.
 - 6. When a form is filed with the court, request the clerk "filestamp" one copy of the form for your file.
 - 7. A Law Summary has been included at the end of this form packet. Review the Law Summary before beginning the process of completing the forms.
- B. Summary of Procedure (Title 12, Chapter 6, Sections 12-601 through 12-602, inclusive, A.R.S.A.)
 - The process for obtaining a name change for a minor in the State of Arizona begins with the filing of an Application for Change of Name with the <u>Superior</u> Court in the jurisdiction in which minor resides. The Application may be filed by the parent(s), guardian ad litem, or next friend of the minor. The Application informs the Court of the minor's name, the name the minor wishes to adopt, and the reasons for the requested change of name.

The primary concern of the Court is whether it will be in the best interests of the minor to have the name change request granted. If parents of the minor do not make, join in, or consent to the

- name change request, the Court may require they be given formal notice by service of process.
- 2. After the Application is filed and the required fee is paid, the Court will set the Application for a hearing. The Court may require the Applicant to give public notice of the relief requested and the date of the hearing in a local newspaper and/or by service upon any interested party.
- 3. The Hearing is generally brief and fairly informal. It is important to be on time and prepared to explain to the Court your reasons for the requested change of name.
- 4. At the hearing, if the court is satisfied there is no reasonable objection to the name change and that it is consistent with the public interest, the Court will issue an Order changing the Minor's name.

C. Procedure

- Step 1: Complete all the forms using complete names middle names instead of middle initials.
- Step 2: File the Application in the Superior Court in the county in which the minor is a resident and pay the appropriate fee.
- Step 3: If both legal parent(s) of the minor are not the Applicants, obtain their consent on the Consent to Minor Name Change form.
- Step 4: Submit the Notice of Hearing to the Clerk of the Court for the assignment of a court date. The Clerk will direct you to the local newspaper approved for publication of the Notice of Hearing.
- Step 5: Take the Notice of Hearing to the designated newspaper and request publication as directed by the Clerk. At the end of the publication period, you will be able to obtain from the newspaper an Affidavit of Publication with an attached copy of the published Notice of Hearing. The Affidavit and attachment are then filed with the Clerk of the Court.
- Step 6: At the hearing, any persons objecting to the requested Name Change will be heard by the Court; and the Court may examine, upon oath, the Applicant or other persons concerning the Application.
- Step 7: If the Court is satisfied as to (1) the truth of the allegations contained in the Application; (2) that the

required Notice has been published; (3) that there is a reasonable and proper basis for the requested change of name; and, (4) the Court believes the change of name is in the best interest of the child, the Court will issue the Order of Name Change.

- Step 8: When the Court signs the order, the Applicant, if the minor holds a certificate, registration, title, license, permit, or other form, must notify the Arizona Department of Transportation, Motor Vehicle Division in writing of the change of name within ten (10) days of the date of the order.
- Step 9: Request from the State Registrar of the Arizona Department of Health Services any forms they require to amend a birth certificate. Provide a certified copy of the Order Changing Name and request the Minor's name be changed and his/her birth certificate be amended to reflect the change.

NOTE ABOUT COMPLETING THE FORMS

The forms in this packet contain "form fields" created using Microsoft Word. "Form fields" facilitate completion of the forms using your computer. They do not limit you ability to print the form "in blank" and complete with a typewriter or by hand.

If you do not see the gray shaded form fields, go the View menu, click on Toolbars, and then select Forms. This will open the forms toolbar. Look for the button on the forms toolbar that resembles a shaded letter "a". Click in this button and the form fields will be visible.

The forms are locked which means that the content of the forms cannot be changed. You can only fill in the information in the fields.

If you need to make any changes in the body of the form, it is necessary for you "unlock" or "unprotect" the form. IF YOU INTEND TO MAKE CHANGES TO THE CONTENT, DO SO BEFORE YOU BEGIN TO FILL IN THE FIELDS. IF YOU UNLOCK THE DOCUMENT AFTER YOU HAVE BEGUN TO COMPLETE THE FIELDS, WHEN YOU RELOCK, ALL INFORMATION YOU ENTERED WILL BE LOST. To unlock click on "Tools" in the Menu bar and then selecting "unprotect document". You may then be prompted to enter a password. If so, the password is "uslf". That is uslf in lower case letters without the quotation marks. After you make the changes relock the document before you being to complete the fields.

After any required changes and re-protecting the document, click on the first form field and enter the required information. You will be able to navigate through the document from form field to form field using your tab key. Tab to a form field and insert your data. If problems, please let us know.

The law summary for this package may be located and printed from the following address:				
http://www.uslegalfo	rms.com/az/AZ-NAME	<u>2.htm</u>		

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