

**FRANKLIN COUNTY PROBATE COURT  
JUDGE ERIC BROWN**

**MINOR  
NAME CHANGE APPLICATION INFORMATION**

Please review the packet of documents you have received. The Probate Court clerk is not an attorney and cannot answer questions about your name change. It is required by law that you be a resident of Franklin County for at least one continuous year before you file your packet. If you have not lived in Franklin County for at least one year, your application will be dismissed and your filing fees will not be refunded.

**BUSINESS OF THIS COURT IS CONDUCTED ON A CASH BASIS**

If you are attempting to change the name of a minor, the parents of the minor, including the alleged father, must consent to the name change or receive legal notice of the name change. The parent or alleged father must receive legal notice of the filing of the name change application and the hearing that is scheduled, regardless of the amount of contact with the child or the amount of support paid.

You must also publish the name change in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. It is your responsibility to make sure that the legal notice is correct and completed. If you have questions as to how to complete service of notice, you should consult with your attorney.

In a minor name change, if a parent does not consent, the applicant must prove by clear and convincing evidence that the name of the minor should be changed. This may require witnesses and evidence to be presented at a hearing. If you have any questions as to how to present your case, you should consult with an attorney.

The papers you file must be typed or written in ink and must be legible. Illegible documents will be refused for filing. All names and addresses must be **complete**. Use middle names instead of middle initials. P.O. Boxes are not permitted for the applicant's address. Incorrect spellings or incorrect addresses may result in additional costs to you as well as a delay in the change of name.

**ONCE A NAME CHANGE APPLICATION HAS BEEN FILED,  
THERE WILL BE NO COURT COST REFUNDS.**

**FRANKLIN COUNTY PROBATE COURT**  
**JUDGE ERIC BROWN**  
 373 South High Street, 22nd Floor  
 Columbus, OH 43215

**NOTICE TO NAME CHANGE APPLICANTS**

Your hearing on your Application for Name Change has been set for the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_P.M. The hearing will be held in the Franklin County Probate Court, 22nd Floor, 373 S. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. You must attend this hearing, and bring with you the following:

- (1) Proof of publication from a newspaper of general circulation, i.e., The Columbus Dispatch or The Daily Reporter;
- (2) If the name change is for a minor, please bring a certified copy of the minor's birth certificate.
- (3) Consent of parent(s) or proof of service.

**It is your responsibility** to publish the fact that you have filed the Application for Name Change and the hearing date. Publication is to be made in either:

The Daily Reporter  
 580 S. High Street 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
 Columbus, OH 43215  
 Telephone Number 224-4835  
 Cost: \$30.00  
 (Subject to Change)

The Columbus Dispatch  
 34 S. Third Street  
 Columbus, OH 43215  
 Telephone Number 461-5019  
 Cost: \$3.62 per line Mon.-Sat.  
 \$5.16 per line Sunday  
 (Subject to Change)

**The cost for publication is to be paid directly to the newspaper.** A proof of publication will be furnished by either newspaper when payment is made.

**NOTICE:** If the Name Change is for a **minor** the statute requires:

When a name change of a minor is being considered, both the **mother** and **father** must either consent to the name change **or** be notified of the above hearing date by **certified mail, return receipt requested**. If you are **either** the mother or father and you know the address of the other parent you must notify, by certified mail return receipt requested, the other parent of the child and bring the green card to the hearing to prove notification. If you do not really know the address of the other parent and are unable to find it after a search, then you must complete the Affidavit contained in the name change package and testify under oath what efforts you have made to locate the other parent.

The entire name change statute is on the following page for your information.

**TAKE THIS PAGE WITH YOU**

**FRANKLIN COUNTY PROBATE COURT  
JUDGE ERIC BROWN**

**NAME CHANGE STATUTE**

[R.C. 2717.01]

Ohio Revised Code 2717.01 states:

(A) A person desiring a change of name may file an application in the probate court of the county in which the person resides. The application shall set forth that the applicant has been a bona fide resident of that county for at least one year prior to the filing of the application, the cause for which the change of name is sought, and the requested new name.

Notice of the application shall be given once by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county at least thirty days before the hearing on the application. The notice shall set forth the court in which the application was filed, the case number, and the date and time of the hearing.

Upon proof that proper notice was given and that the facts set forth in the application show reasonable and proper cause for changing the name of the applicant, the court may order the change of name.

(B) An application for change of name may be made on behalf of a minor by either of the minor's parents, a legal guardian, or a guardian ad litem. When application is made on behalf of a minor, in addition to the notice and proof required pursuant to division (A) of this section, the consent of both living, legal parents of the minor shall be filed, or notice of the hearing shall be given to the parent or parents not consenting by certified mail, return receipt requested. If there is no known father of the minor, the notice shall be given to the person who the mother of the minor alleges to be the father. If no father is so alleged, or if either parent or the address of either parent is unknown, notice pursuant to division (A) of this section shall be sufficient as to the father or parent.

Any additional notice required by this division may be waived in writing by any person entitled to the notice.

**FRANKLIN COUNTY PROBATE COURT  
JUDGE ERIC BROWN**

IN RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF \_\_\_\_\_ Present Name

TO \_\_\_\_\_ Name Requested

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF MINOR**  
[R.C. 2717.01]

The applicant states that the applicant is the  parent  legal guardian  guardian ad litem of the minor and that the applicant has been a bona fide resident of \_\_\_\_\_, County, Ohio, for at least one year immediately prior to the filing of this application.

A certified copy of the minor's birth certificate is attached.

The applicant states that the name and address of the mother of the minor is:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Address  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

and the name and address of the father or alleged father of the minor is:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Address  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

Applicant states that the address of the  mother  father or alleged father is unknown and cannot with reasonable diligence be ascertained.

There is no person alleged to be the father of said minor .

The applicant requests a change of name of the minor from \_\_\_\_\_  
to \_\_\_\_\_

for the following reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

The applicant states that there is reasonable and proper cause to change the minor's name, that the change of name is in the minor's best interest and that the change of name is not being done for any improper purpose, including but not limited to:

1. Avoid law enforcement authorities;
2. Obstruct any person's right of custody or visitation.

The applicant states that the applicant will cause notice of the application to be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in this county at least thirty (30) days before the hearing on this application. In addition, notice will be given by the applicant to any non-consenting parent or alleged father, whose addresses are known, by certified mail, return receipt requested.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney or Applicant (Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed or Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number (include area code)

Attorney's Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed or Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number (include area code)

**FRANKLIN COUNTY PROBATE COURT  
JUDGE ERIC BROWN**

IN RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF \_\_\_\_\_  
Present Name

TO \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Requested

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**JOURNAL ENTRY SETTING HEARING AND ORDERING NOTICE**

The Court orders this application set for hearing on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_,  
at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_M. The applicant is ordered to cause notice of the application to be given by  
one publication in a newspaper of general circulation in this county at least thirty (30) days prior to the  
hearing date as well as certified mail service, return receipt requested, if necessary , as required by law .

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Judge Eric Brown**

**NOTICE**

**PUBLICATION NOTICE MUST BE MADE TO THE PUBLIC IN  
GENERAL AND TO \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
WHOSE ADDRESS IS UNKNOWN.**

**FRANKLIN COUNTY PROBATE COURT  
JUDGE ERIC BROWN**

IN RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF \_\_\_\_\_  
 TO \_\_\_\_\_  
 CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**JUDGMENT ENTRY - CHANGE OF NAME OF MINOR**

On \_\_\_\_\_ an application for change of name was heard by this Court. The Court finds that proper notice of the application and hearing date was given by one publication in a newspaper of general circulation in this county at least thirty days prior to the hearing on the application and proper notice was given to the legal parents, known father, or alleged father, as required by law. The Court further finds that reasonable and proper cause exists for changing the name and the name change is in the best interest of the minor .

The Court finds that the minor's complete name at birth was \_\_\_\_\_, Present Name  
 the minor's date of birth was \_\_\_\_\_, and the place of birth was \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
City County State

Therefore, it is ORDERED the name of \_\_\_\_\_  
 be changed to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Judge Eric Brown**

**CERTIFICATION OF JUDGMENT ENTRY**

The above Judgment Entry - Change of Name of Minor is a true copy of the original kept by me as custodian of the records of this Court.

**Judge Eric Brown**  
 Probate Judge/Clerk

By \_\_\_\_\_  
 Deputy Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

**FRANKLIN COUNTY PROBATE COURT  
JUDGE ERIC BROWN**

IN RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF \_\_\_\_\_  
Present Name  
TO \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Requested  
CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**CONSENT TO CHANGE OF NAME**

The undersigned \_\_\_\_\_

[check one of the following 3 capacities by which your consent is given]

- Mother
- Father
- Alleged Father

hereby waives notice of the hearing on the Application for Change of Name and consents to the change of name of

\_\_\_\_\_

to \_\_\_\_\_

as proposed in the Application.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed or Printed name

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk/Notary Public

**PROBATE COURT OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**  
**JUDGE ERIC BROWN**

IN RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF \_\_\_\_\_  
Present Name

TO \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Requested

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A F F I D A V I T**

STATE OF OHIO, COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, ss:

\_\_\_\_\_, being first duly sworn according to law,  
states that:

- \_\_\_\_\_ is the parent  
or alleged father of \_\_\_\_\_  
minor, and that said person's whereabouts is unknown and can  
not with reasonable diligence be ascertained.
- There are no persons alleged to be the father of said minor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ATTENTION**

The Judge/Magistrate hearing this case will ask you what you  
have done to find the above named parent.

# FRANKLIN COUNTY PROBATE COURT JUDGE ERIC BROWN

IN RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF \_\_\_\_\_  
Present Name  
TO \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Requested  
CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

## NOTICE OF HEARING ON CHANGE OF NAME

Applicant hereby gives notice to all interested persons and to \_\_\_\_\_ that  
necessary person whose address is unknown  
the applicant has filed an Application for Change of Name in the Probate Court of Franklin County, Ohio,  
requesting the change of name of \_\_\_\_\_  
to \_\_\_\_\_.

The hearing on the application will be held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, at  
\_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_m. in the Probate Court of Franklin County, located at 373 South High Street, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor,  
Columbus Ohio 43215-6311.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed or Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

Note to Publisher: The above legal notice including the caption is to be published in its entirety. Costs are to be paid by applicant and an Affidavit of Publication is to be furnished to applicant.