

Name Change Guide



Northwest Justice Project

Contents

Part 1. Questions and Answers.....	1
A. How do I change my name?	1
B. How do I change my name using a marriage, divorce or adoption?	1
C. Who can get a court-ordered name change?	2
D. If I change my name by court order, will it be confidential (or “sealed”)?	2
E. Do I have to file in the county where I live?	3
F. How much does it cost?	4
G. Do I need to go to a court hearing? What happens at the hearing?	4
H. What do I do after the hearing?	4
I. Can I change my minor child’s name using a birth certificate instead of a court order?	5
J. Can I get a court-ordered name change for a minor?	6
K. My child is transgender or wants to change their name for gender identity related reasons. The other parent does not support their name change. What do I do?	7
L. I am a court-appointed guardian, can I get a name change for the person I am guardian of?	8
M. What if I am a convicted felon currently incarcerated or am currently on probation, parole, or under post-prison supervision?	8
N. What if I am in a local jail and want to petition for a name change?	9
O. What if I also want to change the gender designation that is on all my IDs?	9
Part 2. Checklist of steps.....	10
Step 1: Fill out the Petition	10
Step 2: Get together your filing fee or filing fee waiver	11
Step 3: File your Petition with the Court Clerk in a Superior Court.....	11
Step 4: If changing a minor child's name, serve the other parent.....	12
Step 5: Attend the hearing	12
Step 6: Get plenty of certified copies of the final order	13

Step 7: Update all your IDs and accounts	13
Get Legal Help	14
Part 3. Blank forms for sealed name change in Superior Court.....	15

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Part 1. Questions and Answers

A. How do I change my name?

There are 4 ways to change your name in Washington state:

- By court order
- Through marriage, divorce or adoption
- By common law (This method may not be recognized by everyone and may not be considered a “legal” name change.)
- By amending a minor child's birth certificate (This is only for children born in Washington. Read section I to learn more.)

This guide explains how to change your name by **court order**. In most situations, it is a simple process you can do by yourself, without a lawyer.

B. How do I change my name using a marriage, divorce or adoption?

You can change parts of your name during the regular processes of marriage, divorce or adoption.

- **Marriage:** You might only be able to change your last name if using a marriage to do so. If you want to change your first and middle name, you may still need to complete a court ordered name change. Use the final official marriage license as proof of your legal last name change.
- **Divorce:** You can change **your** name during any kind of divorce. You can ask to change your first, middle and last name during a divorce. There is a section for requesting name changes on the standard Washington state court form for divorce: [FL Divorce 201 \(Petition for Divorce\)](#). **You cannot use divorce or parentage cases to change a child's name unless there is domestic violence.**
- **Adoption:** Courts generally permit name change requests in adoptions. Name changes are normally part of the adoption case. You don't need to file a separate case. You can ask to change first, middle and last names during an adoption.



C. Who can get a court-ordered name change?

In Washington, you can ask the court to legally change your name if you are an adult or an emancipated minor. A court-appointed guardian can ask the court to change the name of the adult they have guardianship over. A parent or court-appointed guardian can ask the court to change a minor child's name, although the court will usually require notice to any other parent or guardian.

D. If I change my name by court order, will it be confidential (or “sealed”)?

Not unless you file a special type of case to make it confidential or “sealed”.

❖ **Name changes themselves do not have to be published in the newspaper in Washington.**

There are 2 kinds of name change court processes in Washington. Each type of name change has its own forms, requirements and specific court you will use.

Non-sealed name changes: You file these in District Court. Most name changes are this type of “non-sealed” or “public” name change. These name changes will be part of regular accessible District Court records. Whether these records are online and how they are made available to the public varies by county. But, the Court may keep some kind of record of your name change that could be searchable. The District Court forwards the Name Change Order to the county auditor where it is recorded as a public record. It also means that there will be other people in the room during your hearing. Usually, these will be other people asking for name changes. For a non-sealed name change, you will use the name change forms provided by the District Court.

Sealed name changes: You file these in Superior Court. If you think you might qualify for a sealed name change, you can file for a **sealed** name change. This means the court record will be private or confidential. It also means that you will have to go through special steps to prove who you are each time you need a copy of your court order. You might want a sealed name change if you have a fear of harassment or violence. Or, if you just want the most private and confidential name change that is possible. Once sealed, there is no public access to any court record of the name change filing, even if the court doesn't approve the name change.

If there is already a juvenile or emancipation case open, the juvenile court will decide whether it will hear the sealed name change request or if it will let you file the sealed name change for the minor in a different Superior Court.



You can only file for a sealed name change if **at least one of these is true**:

- Your request is due to an experience (or reasonable fear) of domestic violence, stalking, unlawful harassment, or coercive control.
- Your request is related to gender expression or identity.
- You are an emancipated minor.
- You have asylum, refugee, or special immigrant juvenile status.

If one of those situations does apply to you, you can use the forms attached at the end of this guide to file for a sealed name change **in Superior Court**. You might also need extra forms that are specific to the court you choose like a Confidential Information Sheet form or a Note for Hearing form. Ask the Superior Court Clerk if you need any of those kinds of additional forms.

If none of the sealing eligibility situations apply to you, you must file your petition **in District Court** and should use the name change forms provided by that court. You can find these on many District Courts' websites or by going into the District Court's Clerks office.

You cannot request a sealed name change and **must** file in District Court if you are required to register as a **sex offender** or are involved with the **Department of Corrections** in any way (incarcerated, on probation, parole, or post-prison supervision). You will also have to notify the authorities before and after your name change hearing. Read sections M and N to learn more.

E. Do I have to file in the county where I live?

No! The law changed in 2023 to allow you to file in any court in Washington. but which type of court you use depends on your situation. You can read the new law at [RCW 4.24.130](#).

- You can file in the county that you live but you don't have to.
- You don't have to prove you live in the county that you file in but you will probably have to show some kind of ID when you file. If you are houseless or do not have a photo ID, the clerk should tell you what other proof you can use to show that you are who say you are for the purposes of a name change.
- You will have to attend a hearing in the county you file in. It might be a video hearing where you can attend remotely. But, you could be required to attend a hearing in person at the courthouse depending on the county. Again, ask the clerk.



You can search for District and Superior Courts in the [Court Directory on the Washington Courts' website](#).

F. How much does it cost?

Costs vary per county and depending on which kind of court you use.

If you are filing a **non-sealed name change**, check the petition instruction form from the **District Court**. The filing fee is usually listed in the instructions. In District Court, they might also charge a recording fee that could be included in the filing fee total.

If you are filing a **sealed name change**, you can call the **Superior Court** clerk and ask what the filing fee is for a general civil case in that county. It is usually around \$260.

For both types of name changes and in any county, **you will also need money for buying certified copies** of your final order on the day of your hearing. Get many copies- a typical adult needs at least 5 certified copies to update most government IDs. Certified copies are usually around \$5 per copy. So on average, plan for an extra \$30 or more for certified copies on the day of your hearing.

If you can't afford the fees, you can [ask the court for a Fee Waiver](#). If you qualify for a filing fee waiver, the court must also order the county auditor to waive all recording fees related to your name change.

G. Do I need to go to a court hearing? What happens at the hearing?

Yes. All name change petitions require a court hearing that you will have to attend. Some courts let you attend online. Others require you to come in person.

Name change hearings are usually quick and easy. The judge calls your name when it is your turn and asks you a few questions. The judge will ask if everything in the petition is true and correct. You will also be asked if you are trying to change your name for fraudulent purposes or if you are trying to avoid debts.

H. What do I do after the hearing?

Immediately after your hearing ends before you leave the courthouse, go to the Clerk and buy multiple certified copies of your Name Change Order. You will usually need at least 5 copies.

❖ **Always keep at least one hardcopy of a certified copy of your Name Change Order for your records.**



Send copies of the signed Name Change Order to all institutions, agencies, accounts or persons needing proof of the name change. You can learn more about what each government agency requires in Part 2 Step 7.

Update your name with the Social Security Administration first! Then change your other IDs.

For any other IDs and accounts, you should ask the agency or institution what form to use to update your information after a legal name change.

Be sure to update all your accounts including your state ID, Social Security card, tribal ID, bank accounts, deeds, voter registration, vehicle titles and registration, insurance, retirement accounts, school transcripts and any other relevant record. If you own anything with a title in your name like a car or a house, you need to change your name on the title.

For “real” property (like a home or land you own), you need to change your deed to reflect your legal name change **as soon as you can** after you are granted a court ordered name change. You can use a Quit Claim Deed to grant the property to yourself as your new name. To do this, you fill in the Quit Claim Deed using your old name as the grantor and your new name as the grantee. You can read more about recording requirements at [King County's Recording FAQs](#).

I. Can I change my minor child’s name using a birth certificate instead of a court order?

Maybe. If you are a parent of a minor child who is still under 18 and who was born in Washington state, you might be able to get a name change for your child through a birth certificate change. **This is a way to change your child’s first and middle name without a court order.**

It is often cheaper than getting a court ordered name change for your child. If all the parents agree, you can change the first and middle name of your minor child one time through a birth certificate “amendment”.

There are requirements:

- All parents listed on the birth certificate must sign the Affidavit for Correction form.
- You cannot use this process to change a child’s name if the child’s name was already changed once through any kind of court order, adoption, paternity or other legal name change process.



- If one parent is deceased, you will have to submit a death certificate
- You can read more about how to ask for this kind of birth certificate amendment name change at the Department of Health's page about [Changing Birth Certificates](#).

Otherwise, you can ask a court for a court ordered name change for a minor child.

J. Can I get a court-ordered name change for a minor?

Maybe. If you are the only legal parent (or court-appointed guardian), or if both parents agree and sign the petition, the court will likely approve the child's name change. Minor name change rules and forms are different than adult ones.

If you want to request a non-sealed minor name change, you will get the forms from the **District Court** for the county you want to file in. Each county has its own forms for requesting a minor name change and often these forms include instructions about what that county will require for a minor name change. The form instructions might also tell you what kind of notice that county requires if you need to give notice to an opposing parent.

If you want to request a sealed minor name change, you will file in a **Superior Court** and you can use the sample forms included with this guide. Even for a sealed name change, you might have to give notice of some kind to an opposing parent or guardian. Read more about the differences between non-sealed and sealed name changes in section D.

If the other parent does **not** agree with the petition, you will probably have to schedule a hearing in front of a judge. You might have to prove to the court that you gave the other parent notice of the petition and the court date. **The other parent can challenge the proposed name change. This can get complicated. Try to get legal help.**

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- ❖ If there is an active custody case or parenting plan, follow the parenting plan or talk to your lawyer before filing for a name change for your child. You can ask for sole decision-making authority over the child's name as part of your parenting plan case.
-

If you cannot notify the other parent because it would not be safe for you or the child (or because you truly cannot find them), you can ask the court for permission **not** to notify. You will need to prove why notice should not be required. Or the judge might let you use notice by publication as an alternative.

When parents disagree about the child's name, the court will consider:

- The child's wishes



- The effect of the change of the child's name on the child's relationship with each parent
- How long the child has had a given name
- Any difficulties, harassment, or embarrassment the child may experience from having the present or proposed name
- If local county rules require that the minor themselves give consent to the name change. Some counties require that minors 13 and up must consent themselves to the name change.
- If local rules require the court to decide a minor name change based on the child's best interests

K. My child is transgender or wants to change their name for gender identity related reasons. The other parent does not support their name change. What do I do?

If there is an active custody case or parenting plan, follow the parenting plan or talk to your lawyer before filing for a name change for your child. You can ask for sole decision-making authority over the child's name as part of your parenting plan case.

It is possible to get a name change with only one parent's consent, although this can be difficult. The rules vary by county and depend on whether you are seeking a non-sealed name change or a sealed name change. Try to get legal help. Read section J for more general information about contested minor name changes.

❖ **You will probably have to serve the other parent with notice of the hearing so they have a chance to respond.** Or the judge might let you use notice by publication as an alternative if you can't find the other parent or it wouldn't be safe to tell them.

The judge will decide if a name change is in the child's best interests after hearing from both parents. The child can also testify to their best interest depending on the child's age and the local rules. If the other parent is deceased, absent or would pose a danger to the child if notified of the name change, you may have to provide the court with proof or information about these situations.

If your child's medical provider supports their request for a gender related name change, ask the doctor to write a supporting declaration.



L. I am a court-appointed guardian, can I get a name change for the person I am guardian of?

Yes! The law changed in 2023 to allow court-appointed guardians to petition for a name change for the person they have guardianship of. You can file for a public name change in District Court, or for a sealed name in Superior Court if the situation meets the criteria for sealing. Read more about the differences between non-sealed and sealed name changes in section D.

M. What if I am a convicted felon currently incarcerated or am currently on probation, parole, or under post-prison supervision?

You can still ask to change your name, but **you must file in District Court** and you will have extra notice requirements. **You cannot request a sealed name change.**

If you are under Department of Corrections jurisdiction because of being:

- Currently incarcerated
- on probation
- on parole
- or being under post-prison supervision

Then you **must:**

1. Give the Department of Corrections written notice of the hearing time and date along with copies of your petition. These must be **received five days before** the hearing about your name change.
2. If your name change is granted, you must also give a copy of the Order Changing Name to the Department of Corrections **within five days of getting the order**. It is a misdemeanor to fail to do these things.

Ask your parole or probation officer whom you should send the notice to. You can also ask the prison records officer if you are currently living in prison. You can read the law about this at [RCW 4.24.130\(2\)](#).

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- ❖ If you are a convicted sex offender or kidnapper, other rules and restrictions will apply. You can read these rules and restrictions at [RCW 4.24.130\(3\)](#) and [RCW 9A.44.130\(7\)](#). You will also have to give additional notice to Washington State Patrol. Talk to a lawyer for more help.
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If you are currently incarcerated in a prison in Washington, it may be difficult to plan for the required name change hearing appearance you might have to make in the District Court if the hearing is in person. **Some prisons will not allow you to attend the hearing if it requires you to leave the prison complex.** Some counties have procedures to address this and others do not. You may have to ask the District Court clerk or your prison record's officer how the process usually works for the prison that you live in. Disability Rights Washington's guide [Changing Your Name While Incarcerated In A Washington State Prison](#) can help you navigate the process. It has information about the specific procedures required by the different prisons in Washington.

N. What if I am in a local jail and want to petition for a name change?

You should be able to request a name change petition form from the county jail in which you are being held. You may need help from a support person who is on the outside to be able to complete and file the petition in the court itself. Some county District Courts will be able to process name changes for people being held in jail in their county and will work with the jail to make sure you can attend your name change hearing if required. **Some county District Courts will not be able to do so.** If you need help, you should contact a lawyer.

O. What if I also want to change the gender designation that is on all my IDs?

Each ID type and agency has its own process and rules. You can learn about how to change the gender marker that is listed on various IDs in [How do I change the gender on all my IDs.](#)





Part 2. Checklist of steps

Step 1: Fill out the Petition

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- ❖ For a **non-sealed** (public) name change for an adult or a minor, file in a **District Court**. Contact the court clerk to get their local name change forms. **Do not use the forms in this packet.** Most counties have their District Court name change forms available online.
 - ❖ For a **sealed** name change for an adult or a minor, file in a **Superior Court**. Check with the court clerk to see if they have their own name change forms. If local forms exist, use them. Otherwise, you can use the forms in this packet.
-

Type or print clearly, in black ink. Once you have completely filled in the Petition, sign and date it before filing it with the court.

If you use these forms, you are asking for a sealed name change. Sealed name changes have special rules. You may need to prove that you meet one of these situations to be eligible for a sealed name change:

- For Domestic violence, attach evidence to your petition that shows you've experienced (or have a reasonable fear of) domestic violence, stalking, unlawful harassment, or coercive control. **Examples:** a copy of your protection order or criminal no contact order. Copies of threatening messages. Statements (declarations) from others who have witnessed the abuse or threats.
- For gender expression or identity, your statement that you are changing your name for a gender identity related reason is enough. You do **not** have to show any other proof. This is called "self-attestation" and the court should accept it.
- For an emancipated minor, show a copy of your emancipation order.
- For an asylum, refugee, or special immigrant juvenile status, bring the immigration paperwork that shows your status.

If you are asking on behalf of a minor, or someone you have guardianship of, be prepared to show proof that you are the parent or court-appointed guardian. This could be a birth certificate or court order and your ID.



If you are asking to change a minor child's name and the other parent doesn't agree, you will also need to file proof why the name change is in the child's best interest. This could include written statements (declarations) from you or others including the child's medical provider or other professionals.

Step 2: Get together your filing fee or filing fee waiver

Unless you are using a fee waiver, it is best to pay the filing fee with cash. If you pay with card or check, there could be a delay in getting a hearing date set. The clerk may wait until the payment posts before assigning you a file number.

If you can't afford the fees, you can [ask the court for a Fee Waiver](#). You will give these forms to the Clerk at the same time you file your Petition.

Step 3: File your Petition with the Court Clerk in a Superior Court

This sample petition is to be used for requesting a sealed name change, which **must** be filed in a Superior Court. **You can choose which county's Superior Court is best.**

❖ **Ask the Clerk if the court you are using requires a Confidential Information Sheet or Notice of Hearing form for a sealed name change petition.** If they are required, you should ask for copies of those forms and complete them according to the form instructions.

Take your filling fee (or waiver form) and your petition (and any extra required local forms) to the Court Clerk's office and give the Clerk your paperwork. The Clerk will take your payment or your filing fee waiver form and then will tell you the next steps. The Clerk might have you fill out additional paperwork like a case cover sheet or case type sheet.

❖ When you submit a Motion and Declaration for Fee Waiver, the clerk may tell you that you do not qualify for a filling fee or recording fee waiver. **You can ask the judge to waive both the filing and the recording fees. Only a judge can decide if you must pay the fees.** If a clerk asks you to pay it, but you believe you are eligible for a fee waiver, say, "I would like to take that issue in front of the judge." If the clerk still will not let you file, contact a lawyer.

Once your payment posts or your fee waiver is approved, you will be assigned a case number and told how to schedule a hearing date. **Pay attention to the Clerk's instructions about the next steps.** In some counties, the clerk will schedule the hearing for you. In others, you may have to schedule the hearing yourself, using information from the clerk about when a judge will be available.



Ask the clerk if you can attend the hearing online (remotely), or if you must come in person. Get more information about how to attend like:

- Where to get the link for the online courtroom
- What physical courtroom the hearing will be in
- How long the hearings usually take in case you have to take off work or get a sitter

Step 4: If changing a minor child's name, serve the other parent

In most cases, if you are asking the court to change a minor child's name, you must have someone else serve a copy of the paperwork on the other parent (or any other court-appointed guardian) at least 2 weeks before the hearing date.

The paperwork must include a copy of the Petition for Name Change, Notice of Hearing, and any other evidence you are asking the court to consider. Your server must be at least 18 years old and willing to sign a **Proof of Service** form showing when and how they delivered the paperwork. You can use the [family law form and rules for personal service](#).

You can skip this step if:

- Both parents (or court-appointed guardians) signed the petition and proposed order for name change.
- You can prove that you are the child's only parent or court-appointed guardian.
Example: The other parent died. You have a copy of their death certificate.

Step 5: Attend the hearing

You will need to be present at the hearing. The Judge might ask you some questions about debt, fraud or trying to use a name change to avoid obligations like child support. If the Judge grants your sealed name change, on the day of the hearing you will be given a final order that reflects your new name.

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- ❖ If you are asking to change a **minor child's** name and the other parent doesn't agree, the judge will ask questions about this. Unless you are asking the court not to require notice, bring your Proof of Service (see above). Be prepared to explain why the name change is in the child's best interest. The judge may delay the hearing to require notice or give the other parent time to respond.
-



Step 6: Get plenty of certified copies of the final order

Each certified copy will cost \$5. It is best to get as many as 10 copies to start with on the day of your hearing. **In Superior Court, it can be difficult to get more certified copies later because your case will be sealed.** You will have to prove your identity each time you need to buy more certified copies so getting more to begin with is helpful.

You will have to give a certified copy of your name change order to every agency or account you are changing your name with. You won't get those copies returned to you. And you will need to keep at least one hardcopy for your records.

Step 7: Update all your IDs and accounts

Each type of ID or account will have specific processes and forms for updating your name after a name change.

❖ Update your name with the Social Security Administration first! Then change your other IDs.

- **For your Social Security Card:** [Change Name with Social Security](#)
- **For your WA state ID or driver's license:** [Change Your Name or Address On Your Driver's License](#)
- **For your Washington state birth certificate:** [Court-Ordered Name Change](#)
- **If you were born in another state:** You will need contact your birth state's vital statistics agency to find out the correct process.
- **For any Tribal IDs:** Usually your Tribal enrollment or records office will have a specific form you will need complete to update your BIA records and your tribal ID card.
- **For Passports and Passport cards:** [Change or Correct a Passport](#)
- **For immigration documents:** Talk to your immigration attorney or learn more about which form applies to your situation at [USCIS's Updating or Correcting Your Documents](#).
- **For deeds:** You will need to update your name on all your deeds. Talk to your local county recorder's office in the county in which you own the property or learn more at [King County's Recording FAQs](#).



- For any other IDs and accounts, you should ask the agency what form to use to update your information after a legal name change. **Be sure to update all your accounts** including your bank accounts, deeds, voter registration, vehicle titles and registration, insurance, school transcripts and any other relevant record.

Get Legal Help

- **Apply online:** nwjustice.org/apply-online
- **Facing Eviction?** Call 1-855-657-8387
- **Facing Foreclosure?** Call 1-800-606-4819
- **Facing a legal issue in King County** (other than Eviction or Foreclosure)? Call 211 (or toll-free 1-877-211-9274) weekdays 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. They will refer you to a legal aid provider.
- **Facing a legal issue outside of King County** (other than Eviction or Foreclosure)? Call the CLEAR Hotline at 1-888-201-1014 weekdays between 9:15 am and 12:15 pm or apply online at nwjustice.org/apply-online.
- **Seniors (age 60 and over)** with a legal issue outside of King County can also call CLEAR*Sr at 1-888-387-7111

Deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired callers can call any of these numbers using the relay service of your choice.

Interpreters provided.





Part 3. Blank forms for sealed name change in Superior Court

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- ❖ For a **non-sealed** (public) name change, you will file in a **District Court**. Contact the court clerk to get their local name change forms. **Do not use the forms in this packet.** Most counties have their District Court name change forms available online.
 - ❖ For a **sealed** name change, you will file in a **Superior Court**. If local forms don't exist for the county you plan to file in, **you can use the forms in this packet.**
-

- NJP General 090: "Petition for Sealed Name Change"
- NJP General 091: "Order for Sealed Name Change"



Superior Court of Washington, County of _____

In re:

(Current name)

[] by parents or legal guardians on behalf of
a minor:

(Name/s of parents or legal guardians)

No. _____

Petition for Sealed Name Change
(No mandatory form)

Clerk's action required: Do not file in a
public access file (RCW 4.24.130(5)(c))

Petition for Sealed Name Change

Instructions

Step 1: Find out if you are eligible for a **sealed** name change in Superior Court.

You can only file for a sealed name change in Superior Court **if at least one of these is true:**

- Your request is due to an experience of or reasonable fear of domestic violence, stalking, unlawful harassment, or coercive control.
- Your request is related to gender expression or identity.
- You are an emancipated minor.
- You have asylum, refugee, or special immigrant juvenile status.

If none of those apply, do **not** use this form. Contact **District Court** for their public name change forms.

Step 2: Check with the Superior Court Clerk to see if they have their own name change forms. If local forms exist, use them. Otherwise, fill out this form and a proposed *Order for Sealed Name Change* (NJP General 091). You may need additional forms like a Cover Sheet, Confidential Information Sheet or Notice of Hearing form. Ask the Clerk if these forms are required in your county and how to get them, if needed.

Step 3: File your petition with the court clerk. Pay the filing fee or apply for a fee waiver. Ask the court clerk how to schedule a hearing on your petition.

Step 4: Go to your court hearing. Bring ID and your proposed *Order for Sealed Name Change*. Ask the judge to sign your order. After the order is signed, you can purchase copies from the court clerk. Purchase many.

1. **Who is changing their name?**

☐ **Me.** I am (*check one*):

☐ age 18 or older. My date of birth is: _____.

☐ an emancipated minor.

☐ **A minor child, age _____.** I/we have the legal authority to file this petition for the child because (*check one*):

☐ We are the child's parents or legal guardians. Both parents or guardians agree to the name change and are signing this petition.

☐ I am a parent or legal guardian of the child and (*check one*):

☐ The child has no other parent or legal guardian.

☐ The child's only other parent or legal guardian has died.

☐ I will have a copy of this petition and the notice of hearing served on the child's other parent or legal guardian.

☐ I ask the court to change my child's name without requiring notice to the other parent or legal guardian because (*explain legal or safety reasons*):

The requested name change is in the child's best interest because: _____

2. **Request**

I ask for a court order changing ☐ my ☐ the minor child's name:

From (*current full legal name*):

First *Middle* *Last*

To: (*new full legal name*):

First *Middle* *Last*

1 **3. Washington court's authority (jurisdiction)**

2 ☐ I am a resident of Washington.

3 ☐ The minor child is a resident of Washington.

4 ☐ **Not** a resident. The person whose name is changing is not a resident of Washington.
I am filing this petition in a Washington state court because (*explain*):

5 _____
6 _____
7 _____

8 **4. Reasons to seal: Are you filing this petition for any of the reasons listed below?**

9 *If Yes, you may file in Superior Court. The Superior Court will **seal** the file to protect your privacy if the petition is granted. RCW 4.24.130.*

10 ☐ Yes, this is due to an experience of (or reasonable fear of) domestic violence,
stalking, unlawful harassment, or coercive control as defined in RCW 7.105.010.

11 ☐ Yes, this is related to gender expression or identity as defined in RCW 49.60.040.

12 ☐ Yes, I am an emancipated minor under chapter 13.64 RCW.

13 ☐ Yes, I (or the minor child) have received asylum, refugee, or special immigrant
juvenile status.

14 ☐ No. (*Do **not** use this form. You can file a petition for a public name change in District Court. Use the District Court's name change form.*)

15 **5. Is the person whose name is changing required to register as a sex offender?**

16 ☐ No

17 ☐ Yes (*Do **not** use this form. You can file a petition for a public name change in District Court. You will have special notice requirements. Use the District Court's name change form.*)

18 **6. Is the person whose name is changing under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections?**

19 ☐ No

20 ☐ Yes (*Do **not** use this form. You can file a petition for a public name change in District Court. You will have special notice requirements. Use the District Court's name change form.*)

21 **7. Has the person whose name is changing had a previous name change?**

22 ☐ No

23 ☐ Yes. *Explain:* _____
24 _____

1 **8. Are you filing this petition to avoid creditors?**

2 ☐ No

3 ☐ Yes

4 **9. Are you filing this petition for any illegal or fraudulent purpose?**

5 ☐ No

6 ☐ Yes

7 **10. Is there anything else the court should know about your request for a name change?**

8 ☐ No.

9 ☐ Yes. *Explain:* _____

10 _____

11 _____

12 _____

13 _____

14 _____

15 _____

16 _____

17 _____

18 _____

19 _____

20 _____

21 _____

22 _____

23 _____

24 _____

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Washington that the facts I have provided on this form are true.

Signed at (*city and state*): _____ Date: _____



Petitioner's or Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ *Print name* _____



Second Parent/Guardian's Signature (if any) _____ *Print name* _____



Minor child age 13 or older (if any) _____ *Print name* _____

Superior Court of Washington, County of _____

In re:

No. _____

(Current name)

Order for Sealed Name Change

[] by parents or legal guardians on behalf of
a minor:

(No mandatory form)

(Name/s of parents or legal guardians)

Clerk's action required: 7

Order for Sealed Name Change

Use this form with the Petition for Sealed Name Change, NJP General 090.

1. A petition for name change was filed to change the name of:

☐ an adult, age 18 or older.

☐ an emancipated minor.

☐ A minor child, age ____.

A hearing was held on (date): _____

The following people attended: _____

2. Washington court's authority (jurisdiction)

This court has jurisdiction over the requested name change because:

☐ The person whose name is being changed is a resident of Washington.

☐ Other reason (explain): _____

1 **3. Findings on reasons to seal**

2 The petition for name change should be granted in Superior Court and the case sealed
3 pursuant to RCW 4.24.130(5) because *(check all that apply)*:

- 4 ☐ The request is due to an experience of (or reasonable fear of) domestic violence,
5 stalking, unlawful harassment, or coercive control as defined in RCW 7.105.010.
6 ☐ The request is related to gender expression or identity as defined in RCW 49.60.040.
7 ☐ Petitioner is an emancipated minor under chapter 13.64 RCW.
8 ☐ Petitioner (or the minor child) has received asylum, refugee, or special immigrant
9 juvenile status.

10 **4. Sex offender and DOC findings**

11 *(Name change petitions for people who are required to register as a sex offender and for
12 people who are under DOC jurisdiction must be filed in District Court.)*

13 The person whose name is changing is **not** required to register as a sex offender and is
14 **not** under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections (DOC).

15 **5. Minor child findings**

- 16 ☐ Does not apply.
17 ☐ Petitioner/s have the legal authority to petition for the minor child because:
18 ☐ They are the child's parents or court-appointed guardians. Both parents or
19 guardians agree to the name change.
20 ☐ Petitioner is a parent or court-appointed guardian of the child and *(check one)*:
21 ☐ The child has no other parent or court-appointed guardian.
22 ☐ The child's only other parent or court-appointed guardian has died.
23 ☐ The child's other parent or court-appointed guardian was served notice of this
24 hearing and had an opportunity to respond.
☐ The court should grant a name change without notice to the other parent or
court-appointed guardian because *(explain legal or safety reasons)*:

- ☐ The requested name change is in the child's best interest because: _____

6. Order

The petition is granted. The court orders the following name change:

From (*current full legal name*):

First

Middle

Last

To: *(new full legal name)*:

First

Middle

Last

7. Clerk's action

The clerk shall **seal** this file. There shall be no public access to any court record of this name change filing, proceeding, or order. The name change file shall not be open to inspection except:

- Upon order of the court for good cause shown; or
- Upon the request of the person whose name change was granted or the person's guardian or representative.

Ordered.

Dated

Judge/Court Commissioner

Print Judge/Court Commissioner Name

Presented by:

Petitioner's or Parent/Guardian's Signature

Print name

Second Parent/Guardian's Signature (if any)

Print name

Minor child age 13 or older (if any)

Print name