

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING NAME CHANGE OF MINOR CHILD**

This is the form packet for people who want to file for changing the name of a minor child (under the age of eighteen (18) years of age) in the Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit. The legal procedure of minor name change does not change the legal status of the child or father in any way. If you are a biological father who wants to become the legal father you will need to file a legitimation action.

In Georgia, name changes are governed by O.C.G.A. section 19-12-1 through 9-12-4. To change the name of a minor child you must file a Petition for Name Change in the Superior Court of the county in which you or the legal guardian are a resident. You can either hire an attorney who will prepare your case and represent you in Court, or you can use the sample forms included in this packet and represent yourself in Court.

Neither the Clerk of Superior Court, nor any Deputy Clerk, nor the judges or any other Court personnel, are allowed to answer any questions for you concerning the preparation of these forms. In fact under Georgia law, specifically O.C.G.A section 15-19-51 forbids court personnel (including staff attorneys or law clerks, clerk's office staff or sheriff's department staff) to give legal advice or answer legal questions. The only person allowed to help you in the preparation of these forms is a licensed attorney hired to represent you. Please consult an attorney if you have questions about the procedure or what action is best for you to take.

Please keep in mind that these forms are presented as a guide to assist you in the preparation of your name change papers. It is advisable to speak with a lawyer before filing any action with the Court. A name change is no exception to this rule. It is always good to talk to a lawyer if possible. You may need an attorney if:

1. The case becomes contested and the other side has a lawyer.
2. You cannot find the father or mother to serve him or her with your papers.
3. You find the court papers hard to understand.
4. You have questions.

Please read these instructions and each form carefully. Missing or misreading a word could cause you to make serious errors in your case, placing your rights and the direction of your name change case in jeopardy. You must fully complete the forms before the Judge will be able to grant your request. Incomplete forms, as well as forms that are improperly filled out, may delay the granting of your name change. Make sure that you take time to read over all the forms, and understand what is being asked of you in each situation.

Please read and complete the steps listed below in order to complete, file and serve your Petition For Name Change of Minor Child (ren).

- STEP 1: Fill out the Petition to Change Name of Minor Child(ren).
- STEP 2: Fill out the Verification form.
- STEP 3: Fill out the Domestic Relations Initiation Form.
- STEP 4: Have the Consent form, signed and notarized.
- STEP 5: Fill out the Notice of Petition to Change Name form.
- STEP 6: Arrange for Service.
- STEP 7: Fees.
- STEP 8: Make copies of all of the forms and file with the Clerk of the Superior Court.
- STEP 9: Appear on scheduled court date to obtain final ruling.
- STEP 10: Final Decree will be filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court, and a certified copy can be obtained at that time (for a nominal fee).

The following are detailed instructions:

### **1. Fill out the Petition to Change Name of Minor Child(ren):**

Enter the current name(s) of the minor children whose name(s) you want to change next to the word, "Children." Then fill in your name above the word "Petitioner". Fill in the name of the other parent or guardian above the word "Respondent". You should not fill in the blank next to "Civil Action File No." because the clerk will assign your case a number when you file the Petition, and the clerk will fill that number in for you.

**Paragraph 1:** Insert your name and the name of the county in which you reside.

**Paragraph 2:** Check the box next to the word that describes your relationship to the child(ren).

**Paragraph 3:** Print or type the current (prior) name(s) of the child(ren) in the left column and the new name or names of the child(ren) in the right column. Enter the year of birth for each child in the center column.

**DO NOT ABBREVIATE NAMES OR USE INITIALS.**

**Paragraph 4:** Check (a) to confirm that the child(ren) live with you. If the child(ren) live with someone else, check (b) and write the name of the adult they live with on the first blank line. Write the county the child(ren) live in on the second line.

**Paragraph 5:** Print or type the reasons why you want to change the child(ren)'s name(s) here. Make sure your reasons are clearly explained.

**Paragraph 6:** Print or type the names of the mother (even if you are the mother) and her address. Check (a) if the mother agrees to the name change. If not, check either (b, c. or d). If neither a, b, c or d is true, you should not use this form and should consult with an attorney.

**Paragraph 7:** Print or type the names of the father (even if you are the father) and his address. Check (a) if the mother agrees to the name change. If not, check either (b), (c), or (d). If neither a, b, c or d is true, you should not use this form and should consult with an attorney.

**Paragraph 8:** Check (a) if the parents are the only legal guardian of the child(ren). Check (b) if the parents are deceased and the other statements in that paragraph are true.

**Sign and date the Petition:**

Then print or type the date when you filled out the form, print and sign your name, fill in your address, telephone number and email address.

**2. Complete the Verification form**

The Verification form must be filed with the Petition for Name Change. Note that by signing the Verification, you are swearing under oath that the information you have provided in the Petition for Name Change are true. You will need to sign this Verification in the presence of a Notary Public.

**3. Complete the Domestic Relations Filing Information and Final Disposition form.**

This form is required. It is used to help the Clerk of Court keep statistical information about the number and types of cases decided in our local court.

The filing information form:

- a. In the top line fill in the court where you are filing and date filed.
- b. In the second line fill in the names of the Petitioner and Respondent.
- c. Check the box which says Pro Se which will indicate that you are representing yourself without an attorney.
- d. In the left hand box check the box which indicates the type of action being filed.

The final disposition form:

The purpose of this part of the form is to show how the case ended. Do not fill this part out until matter has been concluded.

- a. In the top line fill in only the County where the case was disposed of.
- b. Write your name as the Reporting Party.
- c. Write down the Petitioner and Respondent's full names.
- d. Check box which states Pro Se since you are representing yourself.

**4. Consent Forms:**

Have the Consent form signed and notarized. Both parents have to sign the Consent form in order to change the name of a minor child(ren) unless:

The parent or parents are deceased or the parent or parents have abandoned the child(ren). Abandoned means that the parent has not contributed to the support of the child(ren) for a continuous period of five (5) years or more immediately before you file the petition.

If both parents are deceased or have abandoned the child(ren), the legal guardian has to sign the form. If only one parent is deceased or abandoned the child(ren) but not contributing to the support of the child, the remaining parent has to sign the form. Once this form is signed, have it notarized and attach it to the Petition. This is "Exhibit A," which is referred to in paragraph 6 and 7 of the Petition. **Note:** If one of the parents does not want the child(ren)'s name changed and refuses to sign the consent form, that parent can file objections to the petition once it is filed. If this happens, you may not be able to change the child(ren)'s name. (you should seek the advice of an attorney.)

Fill out the style of the case like you filled out the Petition (Print or type the current name(s) of child(ren) next to the work "Children:", your name next to the word "Petitioner", and the other parent or guardian's name next to the word "Respondent").

**Number 1:** Enter the name of the person (parent or guardian) consenting to the Petition.

**Number 2:** Enter the name of the Petitioner in the first blank. Then complete the information about the child(ren). Enter the child(ren)'s current and new names, in the same way that you entered it in the petition.

**Number 3:** Review this information.

Confirm that you consent by signing the signature line below in front of a notary. Wait for a notary to watch you sign before signing. Check the box below the signature line to show your relationship to the child(ren).

## 5. Publishing Notice:

The Notice of Petition to Change Name form must be published once a week for four weeks in the county newspaper. You can arrange to have this done at the clerk's office when you file your Petition. There is a fee for publication. Check with the Clerk of Superior Court for the amount. Be sure to include your name, address and email on the Notice form so that the county newspaper can mail you proof that the notice was published.

## 6. Arranging for Service.

**Personal Service on a Parent or Guardian:** In order to have a minor child(ren)'s name changed, both parents of the child(ren) have to be "served" with a copy of the petition. That means that you have to provide them with a copy of the petition. If the child(ren) resides with people other than his or her parent or parents, then the person acting as guardian of the child(ren) has to be served with a copy of the petition as if he or she were that child(ren)'s parent. *If the parent(s) or guardian(s) live in Georgia, you can contact the Sheriff's department in the county where the person lives for information on serving your Petition.* If the parent(s) or guardian(s) live outside Georgia, service of the petition has to be made by certified mail. If you do not know the address of the parent(s) or guardian(s), then you can seek to have service be made by publication. If you are not sure which type of service is needed, seek the advice of an attorney.

There are three (3) forms that can be used to indicate that the Respondent has been served with the Petition for Name change:

1. Sheriff's Entry of Service
2. Acknowledgment of Service, or
3. Publication paperwork which includes the Affidavit of Diligent Search, Notice of Publication and Order of Publication, Return of Service, and Order Perfecting Service.

Acknowledgment of Service is the easiest and least expensive method, but only if the Respondent is cooperate and willing to sign an acknowledgment form in front of a notary public.

Service by the Sheriff is the usual way for service to be completed. If the Respondent will not sign an Acknowledgment of Service, and you know an address where the Respondent can be served, then you should make arrangements for the Sheriff's Department to serve the papers.

Service by Publication is the method of last resort. If you can find the Respondent, you must use one of the other two methods of service.

## **7. Fees.**

If you are unable to afford the fees you will need to submit an Affidavit of Poverty and Order on Affidavit of Poverty. This form is used only if you are indigent and cannot afford to pay the filing and service fees.

Unless you are able to have your filing fee waived, there is a filing fee in the Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit. You must pay this fee when you file your Petition for Name Change. And for publishing an ad in the newspaper, you are responsible for paying the cost of the newspaper ads.

## **8. Make Copies and File Forms with the Clerk of Superior Court.**

After you have completed, signed, copied and sorted all your paperwork you are ready to file your case. You should make two (2) copies of all of your documents. Give the clerk your original and the two (2) copies. The clerk will assign a number to your case and will write in the number on you documents. The original will remain with the Clerk and one (1) copy will be given to the Respondent and the other one used for your records.

## **9. Go to Court on the appointed date.**

A court date will be assigned at the time of filing. The notice must have been published once a week for four (4) weeks prior to the assigned court date. If for any reason this does not happen, then the court date may be reset to a later date. Be sure to appear at ALL scheduled court date(s). You will also need to bring the original Final Decree for the Court to sign on that date.

To determine the appropriate court date go to the official website for the Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit at [www.lmjc.net](http://www.lmjc.net) and check the calendar to determine the next circuit date in the appropriate county after said period.

On the appropriate date go to the Clerk's Office and inform them that you are there for a final hearing on a name change. The Clerk will then pull your file and give to the Court.

#### **10. Obtaining your Final Order:**

The Final Decree will be filed in the Superior Court Clerk's Office. A certified copy can be obtained at that time for a fee.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

In Re the Name Change of Child(ren): )  
 \_\_\_\_\_, ) Civil Action File  
 \_\_\_\_\_, )  
 \_\_\_\_\_, ) No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_, )  
 Petitioner. )  
 v. )  
 \_\_\_\_\_, )  
 Respondent. )

**PETITION TO CHANGE NAME(S) OF MINOR CHILDREN(REN)**

Now comes the Petitioner, \_\_\_\_\_ and files this Petition to Change Name(s) of Minor Child(ren) and in support of cause of action states as follows:

1. The Petitioner is a citizen and resident of \_\_\_\_\_ County, Georgia, and has been a resident for six (6) months prior to the date of filing of this Petition to Change Name(s) of Minor Child(ren), and currently lives at \_\_\_\_\_. Therefore, jurisdiction and venue are proper in this Court.

2. The relationship to the child(ren) in this action is: [check only one box]  
 \_\_\_\_\_Mother \_\_\_\_\_Father \_\_\_\_\_Guardian

3. The current names, birthdate and proposed new names of the child(ren) are:

Current Name of Child	Date of Birth	Proposed New Name

4. [Check only one of the following]

\_\_\_\_\_ (a) The children live with me in \_\_\_\_\_ County, Georgia.

\_\_\_\_\_ (b) The children do not live with me. They live with \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ County, Georgia.

5. [Explain here why you want to change the name(s).]

The reasons for the name change are as follows:

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6. The mother of the children is \_\_\_\_\_,

her address is \_\_\_\_\_ and she:

[Check only one of the following]

\_\_\_\_\_ (a) Has consented to this name change and has acknowledged service; the signed consent and acknowledgment of service shall be filed with this Petition.

\_\_\_\_\_ (b) Is deceased.

\_\_\_\_\_ (c) Has abandoned the child(ren).

\_\_\_\_\_ (d) Has not contributed to the support of the child(ren) for a continuous period of at least 5 years immediately preceding the filing of this Petition.

7. The father of the children is \_\_\_\_\_,

his address is \_\_\_\_\_ and he:

[Check only one of the following]

\_\_\_\_\_ (a) Has consented to this name change and has acknowledged service; the signed consent and acknowledgment of service shall be filed with this Petition.

\_\_\_\_\_ (b) Is deceased.

\_\_\_\_\_ (c) Has abandoned the child(ren).

\_\_\_\_\_ (d) Has not contributed to the support of the child(ren) for a continuous period of at least 5 years immediately preceding the filing of this Petition.

8. [You must check one (and only one) of the following.]

\_\_\_\_\_ (a) There is no legal guardian for these children, other than their parent(s).



\_\_\_\_\_ (b) both parents are deceased or have abandoned the child(ren), and the guardian of the child(ren) is \_\_\_\_\_, whose address is \_\_\_\_\_, and she or he has consented to this name change and has acknowledged service; the signed consent and acknowledgment of service shall be filed with this Petition.

THEREFORE, the Petitioner asks:

- (a) That the name(s) of the child(ren) be changed to the names shown in Paragraph 3 of the petition;
- (b) That Respondent(s) be served with notice of this Petition as provided by law;  
[Check on of the following methods of service for each person who must be served]
- (c) That the \_\_\_mother \_\_\_father\_\_\_ person acting as guardian of the minor children be personally served;
- (d) That the \_\_\_mother \_\_\_father \_\_\_person acting as guardian of the minor children be serve by certified mail, because they reside outside of the State of Georgia;
- (e) That the Court order service by publication for the \_\_\_mother \_\_\_father \_\_\_person acting as guardian of the minor children, whose address in unknown.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner, pro se (Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**VERIFICATION**

STATE OF GEORGIA     )

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

\_\_\_\_\_ having been first duly sworn says that he/she is the  
Petitioner in this cause and the facts contained in this Petition to Change Name of Minor  
Child are true and correct to the best of his/her knowledge, information and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to and subscribed before me

this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_

Notary Public

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

In Re the Name Change of Child(ren): )  
\_\_\_\_\_, ) Civil Action File  
\_\_\_\_\_, )  
\_\_\_\_\_, ) No. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, )  
Petitioner. )  
v. )  
\_\_\_\_\_, )  
Respondent. )

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF MINOR CHILD**

STATE OF GEORGIA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

Notice is hereby given that \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned, filed his/her Petition to the Superior Court of \_\_\_\_\_ County, Georgia, on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ praying for a change in the name of his/her minor child from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file an objection or objections to such name changes. Objections must be filed with said Court within thirty (30) days of the filing of said Petition.

Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within the time prescribed in O.C.G.A. § 19-12-1 (F) (2) and (3).

This the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email : \_\_\_\_\_

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

In Re the Name Change of Child(ren): )

\_\_\_\_\_, )

Civil Action File

\_\_\_\_\_, )

\_\_\_\_\_, )

No. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, )

Petitioner. )

v. )

\_\_\_\_\_, )

Respondent. )

**FINAL JUDGMENT AND DECREE**

The above and foregoing Petition to Change Name came on for trial before the Court without the intervention of a jury, pursuant to law, and it appearing that notice has been published pursuant to law in the \_\_\_\_\_ County News and that no objections have been timely filed, and it further appearing that sufficient grounds exist for the granting of the relief prayed for in said Petition and that no reason appears showing why said prayer should not be granted .

**UPON CONSIDERATION** of this cause, upon evidence submitted as provided by law, **IT IS THE JUDGMENT OF THE COURT**, that the Petitioner's Petition to Change Name of Minor Child, \_\_\_\_\_ shall be granted.

**IT IS ORDERED AND DECREED** by the Court that \_\_\_\_\_'s name of \_\_\_\_\_ shall be changed to \_\_\_\_\_.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND DECREED** by the Court that such name change shall not operate to authorize Petitioner to fraudulently deprive others of any legal rights under the law.

So ordered this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge

Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit

Superior Court

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

In Re the Name Change of Child(ren): )  
 \_\_\_\_\_, ) Civil Action File  
 \_\_\_\_\_, )  
 \_\_\_\_\_, ) No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_, )  
 Petitioner. )  
 v. )  
 \_\_\_\_\_, )  
 Respondent. )

**CONSENT TO CHANGE NAME(S) OF MINOR CHILD(REN) AND  
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SERVICE**

1. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. My address is:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

My relationship to the child(ren) in this action is: [Check only one of the following.]

\_\_\_\_\_ Mother      \_\_\_\_\_ Father      \_\_\_\_\_ Person Acting as Guardian

2. I have received a copy of the Petition being filed by \_\_\_\_\_  
 to change the name(s) of the child(ren), and I hereby give my consent to the  
 name(s) being changed as follows:

Current Name of Child	Date of Birth	Proposed New Name

I consent to both jurisdiction and venue as they are state in the Petition. So long as any final order in this action is consistent with this consent form, then I waive formal process, further notice, my right to a hearing and, if I am on active duty in the armed forces, I also waive my rights under the Service members Civil Relief Act, 50 USC §521. I give my consent for the Court to hear this matter as soon as possible after thirty days. Should further notice be required for any reason, the notice should be mailed to me at the address shown in Paragraph One above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_Mother \_\_\_Father \_\_\_Guardian

(Check one & sign in front of Notary Public

\_\_\_\_\_  
Personally, appeared before me on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, and stated under oath that he/she had read the foregoing document, understood it, and signed it voluntarily in my presence.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

Commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

## Domestic Relations Case Filing Information Form

Superior Court      County \_\_\_\_\_      Date Filed \_\_\_\_\_  
MM-DD-YYYY

Docket # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Plaintiff(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Defendant(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Last    First    Middle I.    Suffix    Prefix    Maiden

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Last    First    Middle I.    Suffix    Prefix    Maiden

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Last    First    Middle I.    Suffix    Prefix    Maiden

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Last    First    Middle I.    Suffix    Prefix    Maiden

Plaintiff/Petitioner's Attorney \_\_ Pro Se

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Last    First    Middle I.    Suffix

### Check Case Type (one or more)

\_\_\_\_\_ Divorce (includes annulment)

\_\_\_\_\_ Separate Maintenance

\_\_\_\_\_ Adoption

\_\_\_\_\_ Paternity (includes legitimation)

\_\_\_\_\_ Interstate Support Enforcement Action

\_\_\_\_\_ Domestication of Foreign Custody Decree

\_\_\_\_\_ Family Violence Act Petition

requested

### MODIFICATION

\_\_\_\_\_ Modification - Custody and/or Visitation

\_\_\_\_\_ Modification - Child Support and Alimony

\_\_\_\_\_ Modification - Child Support

\_\_\_\_\_ Modification - Alimony

### FAMILY VIOLENCE

Additional Information

-  
Ex Parte Relief

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Did the initial pleading include a request for relief  
 1. From alleged family violence

2. Was ex parte relief

3. Was ex parte relief granted

**CONTEMPT**

\_\_\_\_ Contempt

\_\_\_\_ Contempt

\_\_\_\_ Contempt

\_\_\_\_ Contempt

\_\_\_\_ Other Domestic Contempt

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\_\_\_\_ Other Domestic Relations Specify \_\_\_\_\_

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

In Re the Name Change of Child(ren): )  
\_\_\_\_\_, )  
\_\_\_\_\_, )  
\_\_\_\_\_, )  
\_\_\_\_\_, )  
Petitioner. )  
v. )  
\_\_\_\_\_, )  
Respondent. )

Civil Action File

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**DEFENDANT'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SERVICE, WAIVER OF VENUE AND  
PERSONAL JURISDICTION**

I \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) the named Respondent in the above-styled case, after being duly sworn do hereby depose and say that I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_ County, \_\_\_\_\_ (State) and that the Petitioner in the above styled case is a resident of \_\_\_\_\_ County, Georgia. I affirm that I have received a copy of said Petition for Name Change, and I hereby waive any and all further notice, service, and issuance of process.

After being duly informed that I have a constitutional right to a trial by judge or jury on the above matter in the county of my residence, and with that knowledge, I hereby expressly wave any right to venue in the county of my residence, and consent to venue and personal jurisdiction in the county of this Superior Court.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent, pro se  
(Sign in the presence of Notary Public)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
Sworn to and subscribed before me  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

In Re the Name Change of Child(ren): )  
\_\_\_\_\_, ) Civil Action File  
\_\_\_\_\_, )  
\_\_\_\_\_, ) No. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, )  
Petitioner. )  
v. )  
\_\_\_\_\_, )  
Respondent. )

**AFFIDAVIT OF POVERTY**

I am the \_\_\_ Petitioner \_\_\_ Respondent in this case. I am filing this Affidavit of Poverty under O.C.G.A. section 9-5-2, to ask that I be relieved from paying the Court costs.

I hereby swear or affirm, before a notary public, that the following information is true:

1. Because I am indigent, I am unable to pay the filing fee, service fee, and other costs which are normally required in the court.

2. My income comes from the following sources: (Check all that apply)

Earnings from my job  Social Security  Unemployment benefits  Alimony  
 VA Benefits  Workers' Compensation  VA Benefits  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_ (Name)

3. My average gross income (before taxes) is \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month; my net income (After taxes) is \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month.

4. In addition to my own income, my other family members living with me have total income of \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month.

5. I have \$\_\_\_\_\_ in my savings account(s) and \$\_\_\_\_\_ in my checking accounts(s).

6. The amount of my rent or mortgage payment is \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month.

7. I pay \$\_\_\_\_\_ in child support, alimony or other support to other family member who do not live with me.

8. I support the following dependents who live with me:

\_\_\_\_\_.

I have the following special financial circumstances:

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

9 Other:

Bankruptcy: \_\_\_\_\_  
Behind on Debts: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Petitioner  Respondent  
(Check and sign here)

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

In Re the Name Change of Child(ren): )  
\_\_\_\_\_, ) Civil Action File  
\_\_\_\_\_, )  
\_\_\_\_\_, ) No. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, )  
Petitioner. )  
v. )  
\_\_\_\_\_, )  
Respondent. )

**ORDER ON AFFIDAVIT OF POVERTY**

The pro se \_\_\_\_\_ Petitioner \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent has filed an Affidavit of Poverty with the Clerk of Court. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. section 9-5-2 (d), the Court has reviewed the Affidavit and the other initial pleadings.

\_\_\_\_\_ Affidavit Approved. It appears to the Court that the affiant is unable to pay the filing fees and associated costs of this action. Therefore, the affiant's pleadings shall be filed, and the affiant shall be relieved from paying the filing fee, sheriff's service fee, and other costs normally required.

\_\_\_\_\_ Affidavit Not Approved. It appears to the Court that the affiant is able to pay the filing fee and associated costs of this action, or that filing should otherwise not be allowed under O.C.G.A. section 9-5-2 (d). Therefore, the affiant shall not be relieved from paying the filing fee, sheriff's service fee, or any other costs normally required.

\_\_\_\_\_ Affidavit Not Approved (No justiciable issue). It appears to the Court that pursuant to O.C.G.A. section 9-5-2 (d) the pleading filed by the affiant shows on its face such a complete absence of any justifiable issue of law or fact that it cannot reasonably be believed that the Court could grant any relief against any party named in the pleading. It is hereby ORDERED that the affiant's request to file the pleading is hereby DENIED.

So ordered this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge  
Superior Court  
Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit