

NEW MEXICO NAME CHANGE FOR A MINOR

HOW TO CHANGE A CHILD'S NAME

Disclaimer: This packet is designed to give assistance to those of you who are trying to “do it yourself.” It isn't a guarantee or a promise; it's just some helpful hints. It's always a good idea to have a lawyer assist you in legal matters.

DO YOU QUALIFY UNDER THE LAW?

YOU MUST BE: A PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF THE CHILD
AND
A RESIDENT OF EITHER SANTA FE, RIO ARRIBA OR
LOS ALAMOS COUNTY
AND
THE CHILD MUST BE: UNDER THE AGE OF FOURTEEN

HOW TO GET STARTED?

1. PREPARE A “PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME” WITH THE CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT. BE SURE TO COMPLETE IT CAREFULLY AND TRUTHFULLY. MAKE SURE YOUR “PETITION” IS NOTARIZED.

A copy of a sample Petition is available from the court for a fee.

Many of the people who work in the courthouse are Notary Publics will “notarize” your Petition at no charge.

2. FILE THE PETITION WITH THE CLERK OF THE COURT AND THE CLERK WILL ASSIGN THE CASE TO A JUDGE.

There is a filing fee for the petition.

3. GO TO THE JUDGE'S OFFICE AND ASK FOR A “HEARING” TO BE SET IN ABOUT 30 DAYS. MAKE YOUR REQUEST IN WRITING.