

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.982(a), PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME (ADULT) (06/10)

When should this form be used?

This form should be used when an adult wants the court to change his or her name. This form is **not** to be used in connection with a dissolution of marriage or for adoption of child(ren). If you want a change of name because of a **dissolution of marriage** or adoption of child(ren) that is not yet final, the change of name should be requested as part of that case.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink and must be signed before a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**. You should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where you live and keep a copy for your records

What should I do next?

Unless you are seeking to restore a former name, you must have fingerprints submitted for a state and national criminal records check. The fingerprints must be taken in a manner approved by the Department of Law Enforcement and must be submitted to the Department for a state and national criminal records check. **You may not request a hearing on the petition until the clerk of court has received the results of your criminal history records check.** The clerk of court can instruct you on the process for having the fingerprints taken and submitted, including information on law enforcement agencies or service providers authorized to submit fingerprints electronically to the Department of Law Enforcement. The process may take several weeks and you will have to pay for the cost of processing the fingerprints and conducting the state and national criminal history records check.

Next, you must obtain a **hearing** date for the court to consider your request. If you are seeking to restore a former name, a hearing on the petition MAY be held immediately after the petition is filed. The final hearing on any other petition for a name change may be held immediately after the clerk of court receives the results of your criminal history records check. You should ask the clerk of court, **family law intake staff**, or **judicial assistant** about the local procedure for setting a hearing. You may be required to attend the **final hearing**. Included in these forms is a **Final Judgment of Change of Name (Adult)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.982(b), which the **judge** may use. You should check with the clerk, family law intake staff, or judicial assistant, to see if you need to bring a **final judgment** form with you. If so, you should type or print the heading, including the circuit, county, case number, division, and the parties' names, and leave the rest blank for the judge to complete at your hearing or trial.

If the judge grants your **petition**, he or she will sign this **order**. This officially changes your name. The clerk can provide you with **certified copies** of the signed order. There will be charges for the certified copies, and the clerk can tell you the amount of the charges.

Where can I look for more information?

Before proceeding, you should read General Information for Self-Represented Litigants found at the beginning of these forms. For further information, see Section 68.07, Florida Statutes.

Special notes...

The heading of the form calls for the name of the **petitioner**. Your current name should go there, as you are the one who is asking the court for something. The judicial circuit, case number, and division may be obtained from the clerk of court's office when you file the petition.

It may be helpful to compile a list of all of the people and/or places that will need a copy of your final judgment. This list may include the driver's license office, social security office, banks, schools, etc. A list will help you know how many copies of your order you should get from the clerk of court after your hearing.

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900 (a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE _____ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR _____ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: _____
Division: _____

Petitioner.

PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME (ADULT)

I, {full legal name} _____, being sworn, certify that the following information is true:

1. My complete present name is: _____.
I request that my name be changed to: _____.
2. I live in _____ County, Florida, at {street address} _____.
3. I was born on {date} _____, in {city} _____, {county} _____, {state} _____, {country} _____.
4. My father's full legal name : _____.
My mother's full legal name: _____.
My mother's maiden name: _____.
5. I have lived in the following places since birth:

Dates (to/from)	Address
_____/_____	_____
_____/_____	_____
_____/_____	_____
_____/_____	_____

(Please indicate here if you are continuing these facts on an attached page.)

6. **Family**
[Choose **all** that apply]
 - a. I am not married.
 - b. I am married. My spouse's full legal name is: _____
 - c. I do not have child(ren).
 - d. The name(s), age(s), and address(es) of my child(ren) are as follows (all children, **including those over 18**, must be listed):

Name {last, first, middle initial}

Age

Address, City, State

(_____ Please indicate here if you are continuing these facts on an attached page.)

7. **Former names**

[Choose **all** that apply]

___ My name has never been changed **by a court**.

___ My name previously was changed **by court order** from _____
to _____ on {date} _____,
by {court, city, and state} _____.

A copy of the court order is attached.

___ My name previously was changed **by marriage** from _____
to _____ on {date} _____,
in {city, county, and state} _____.

A copy of the marriage certificate is attached.

___ I have never been known or called by any other name.

___ I have been known or called by the following other name(s): {list name(s) and explain where you were known or called by such name(s)} _____

8. **Occupation**

My occupation is: _____.

I am employed at: {company and address} _____.

During the past 5 years, I have had the following jobs:

Dates (to/from)	Employer and employer's address
____/____/____	_____
____/____/____	_____
____/____/____	_____
____/____/____	_____
____/____/____	_____

(_____ Please indicate here if you are continuing these facts on an attached page.)

9. **Business**

[Choose **one** only]

___ I do not own and operate a business.

___ I own and operate a business. The name of the business is: _____.

The street address is: _____.

My position with the business is: _____.

I have been involved with the business since: {date} _____.

10. Profession

[Choose **one** only]

I am not in a profession.

I am in a profession. My profession is: _____.

I have practiced this profession:

Dates (to/from)	Place and address
_____/_____/_____	_____
_____/_____/_____	_____
_____/_____/_____	_____
_____/_____/_____	_____
_____/_____/_____	_____

(Please indicate here if you are continuing these facts on an attached page.)

11. Education

I have graduated from the following school(s):

Degree Received	Date of Graduation	School
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

(Please indicate here if you are continuing these facts on an attached page.)

12. Criminal History

[Choose **one** only]

I have never been arrested for or charged with, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been found to have committed a criminal offense, regardless of adjudication.

I have a criminal history. In the past I have been arrested for or charged with, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been found to have committed a criminal offense, regardless of adjudication.

The details of my criminal history are:

Date	City/State	Event (arrest, charge, plea, or adjudication)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

(Please indicate here if you are continuing these facts on an attached page.)

13. Bankruptcy

[Choose **one** only]

I have never been adjudicated bankrupt.

I was adjudicated bankrupt on {date} _____, in {city} _____, {county} _____, {state} _____.

(Please indicate here if you have filed additional bankruptcies, and explain on an attached page.)

14. Creditor(s)' Judgments

[Choose **one** only]

___ I have never had a money judgment entered against me by a creditor.

___ The following creditor(s)' money judgment(s) have been entered against me:

Date	Amount	Creditor	Court entering judgment and case number	if Paid{date}
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

(_____ Please indicate here if these facts are continued on an attached page.)

15. Fingerprints and Criminal History Records Check

Unless I am seeking to restore a former name, a copy of my fingerprints has been taken in a manner approved by the Department of Law Enforcement and submitted for a state and national criminal history records check. **I understand that I cannot request a hearing on my Petition until the Clerk of Court receives the results of the criminal history records check.**

16. I have no ulterior or illegal purpose for filing this petition, and granting it will not in any manner invade the property rights of others, whether partnership, patent, good will, privacy, trademark, or otherwise.

17. My civil rights have never been suspended, or, if my civil rights have been suspended, they have been fully restored.

I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the claims made in this motion and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.

Dated: _____

Signature of PETITIONER

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on _____ by _____.

NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK

[Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or
deputy clerk.]

____ Personally known
____ Produced identification
____ Type of identification produced _____

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW: [fill in
all blanks]

I, {full legal name and trade name of nonlawyer} _____,
a nonlawyer, whose address is {street} _____, {city} _____,
{state} _____, {phone} _____, helped {name} _____, who is
the petitioner, fill out this form.