

ADULT NAME CHANGE - FILING INSTRUCTIONS

Name changes are governed by O.C.G.A. §19-12-1. There are two sets of forms available for name changes. One set is for adults (i.e., 18 years old or older) who want to change their own name (ADULT NAME CHANGE). The other set is for people who want to change the name of a minor child(ren) (NAME CHANGE OF A MINOR CHILD OR CHILDREN). Decide which set of forms you need to use and follow the instructions accordingly. THIS SET OF FORMS IS FOR A NAME CHANGE OF AN ADULT.

CHECKLIST

- Fill out the Petition to Change Name (of an Adult)
- Fill out the Verification form – you will need a notary
- Fill out the Domestic Relations Initiation Form
- Fill out the Notice of Petition to Change Name form
- Make a copy of each of the forms
- File the forms with the Clerk of the Superior Court and obtain court date.
- Publish Notice - This notice (Notice of Petition to Change Name form) must be published once a week for four weeks in the newspaper of record in the county where you reside. There is a fee for publication. Be sure to include your name and address for the publication so the newspaper can mail you proof that notice was published.
- Appear on scheduled court date to obtain final ruling.
- Obtain Final Decree and file with the Clerk of the Superior Court. A certified copy(ies) can be obtained at that time (for a nominal fee).