

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MINOR CHILD(REN) NAME CHANGE HEARING

Try to arrive at the hearing at least 15 minutes before your hearing is scheduled. Once you arrive at the courtroom for the hearing, you should ask the Clerk of the District Court how to let the judge know you are there for the hearing to change your minor child(ren)'s name(s).

The court may ask to review your Decree(s) for Name Change of a Minor before the hearing, so have the Decree(s) prepared, along with one copy.

When the court calls your case, you will be asked if you are ready to proceed. You must tell the court that you are ready and would like to testify. You will be asked to take the stand and the judge will give you an oath to tell the truth. You are then ready to go forward with your case.

You must testify to the following.

1. My name is _____.
(your full name)
2. I am the _____ of _____
(mother or father) (minor child(ren)'s current full name(s))

3. The minor child(ren) and I have lived in _____ County, Nebraska for at
(county where Petition filed)
least one year before I filed the petition to change my minor child(ren)'s name(s).
4. I wish to change my minor child(ren)'s name(s) from _____

(minor child(ren)'s current full name(s))
_____ to _____

(minor child(ren)'s preferred new name(s))
5. I ask the court to take judicial notice of the Affidavit of Publication in the court file. If the judge will not take judicial notice of the Affidavit of Publication ask the judge the following: *May I approach the court reporter and have the Affidavit of Publication*

marked as an exhibit? (If permission is granted, have the Affidavit marked as an exhibit by the court reporter.) *Your Honor, I offer Exhibit _____ into evidence.*
(number given to Affidavit by court reporter)

6. If the other parent signed a Consent, state the following:

The other parent of _____

(minor child(ren)'s **current** full name(s))

has signed a consent. May I approach the court reporter and have the Consent marked as an exhibit? (If permission is granted, have the Consent marked as an exhibit by the court reporter.) Your Honor, I am familiar with the minor child(ren)'s other parent's signature and recognize it on this consent. I offer Exhibit _____ into evidence.
(number given to Consent by court reporter)

7. Choose one of the following to describe your situation:

____ *I provided notice of the filing of the petition. I ask the court to take judicial notice of the Notice to Parent in the court file. If the judge will not take judicial notice of the Notice to Parent ask the judge the following: May I approach the court reporter and have the Notice to Parent marked as an exhibit? (If permission is granted, have the Notice marked as an exhibit by the court reporter.) Your Honor, I offer Exhibit _____ into evidence.*
(number given to Notice by court reporter)

____ *The other parent of the child(ren) could not be notified of the Petition for the name change of the child(ren), as I have no address for that person, and the Clerk of the Court has no record of any address for that person.*

8. *I am changing my child(ren)'s name(s) for the following reason(s):*

(reason(s) you are changing your minor child(ren)'s name(s))

9. *I believe it is in my minor child(ren)'s best interest(s) for the court to approve the name change(s).*

10. *I am not seeking to change my minor child(ren)'s name(s) for any fraudulent or improper purpose, or to avoid creditors in any way.*

11. *I have nothing further, Your Honor.*