

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF MUSCOGEE COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

|        |   |              |
|--------|---|--------------|
| IN RE: | § | File Number: |
| _____  | § | _____        |
| _____  | § | _____        |
| _____  | § | _____        |
| _____  | § | _____        |
| _____  | § | _____        |

PETITION FOR LEGITIMATION

My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am the Petitioner in this legitimation action and am representing myself. In support of my case, I state as follows:

1. The Respondent is named \_\_\_\_\_ and is:

*[Check only one of the following]*

- a) ☐ the mother of my child(ren)
- b) ☐ the legal guardian of my child(ren)
- c) ☐ the legal custodian of my child(ren).

2. Jurisdiction and Venue:

*[Check only one of the following]*

- a) ☐ The Respondent is a resident of \_\_\_\_\_ County, Georgia, and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_ County. The Respondent has acknowledged service of process and has consented to the jurisdiction and venue of this Court.
- b) ☐ The Respondent resides in \_\_\_\_\_ County, Georgia and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_ County. The Respondent has not acknowledged service of process and has not consented to the jurisdiction and venue of this Court.
- c) ☐ The Respondent resides outside the State of Georgia in \_\_\_\_\_, but I reside in \_\_\_\_\_ County, Georgia and my child(ren) reside(s) in Georgia.

- d) ☐ The Respondent resides outside the State of Georgia in \_\_\_\_\_, I reside outside the State of Georgia in \_\_\_\_\_, but my child(ren) reside(s) in \_\_\_\_\_ County, Georgia.
- e) ☐ The Respondent's whereabouts are unknown to me, but I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_ County, Georgia and my child(ren) reside(s) in Georgia. I am filing along with this Petition an Affidavit of Due Diligence.
- f) ☐ The Respondent's whereabouts are unknown to me, but my child(ren) reside(s) in \_\_\_\_\_ County, Georgia. I am filing along with this Petition an Affidavit of Due Diligence.

3. Service of Process: The Respondent shall be served as provided under O.C.G.A. §9-11-4 in the following manner:

*[Check only one of the following]*

- a) ☐ The Respondent may be served by the Sheriff's Department at the Respondent's last known address in the Clerk's file or residence or work address, which is known to me and is:

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- b) ☐ The Respondent has acknowledged service of process. I am filing with this Petition an Acknowledgment of Service which has been signed by the Respondent before a notary public.
- c) ☐ The Respondent's whereabouts are unknown to me. I am filing with this Petition my Affidavit of Due Diligence. The Respondent shall be served by publication as provided under O.C.G.A. §9-11-4(f)(1) for those who cannot be found within the State of Georgia. To the best of my knowledge, information and belief, Respondent's last known address was:

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4. Minor Child(ren):

I am the father of the following minor child(ren), born out of wedlock:

| Name of Child | M/F | Date of Birth | Lives with (mother, father, other) |
|---------------|-----|---------------|------------------------------------|
|               |     |               |                                    |
|               |     |               |                                    |

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

5. Child(ren)'s Current Residence:

The address where the minor child(ren) currently live is:

\_\_\_\_\_

in \_\_\_\_\_ County, with the following adult(s):

\_\_\_\_\_. The child(ren)

has/have lived at this address since approximately \_\_\_\_\_.

6. I want to legitimate my relationship with my child(ren).

*[Check only one of the following]*

My paternity of the child(ren):

a) ☐ Has not been established and I request a DNA test for the following child(ren):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

b) ☐ Has been established by a court.

c) ☐ Has not been established and I waive my right to a DNA test and state that I am the child(ren)'s natural father.

7. ☐ I want to change the name of my child(ren) from: (if no change, do not check box)

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

8. ☐ I seek to have my name entered as the father on the birth record of my child(ren).

FOR THESE REASONS, I REQUEST THE FOLLOWING RELIEF FROM THE COURT:

- a) That the Court enter an Order legitimating my relationship with the child(ren) so that the child(ren) and I will be capable of inheriting from each other in the same manner as if the child(ren) had been born in wedlock;
- b) That the child(ren)'s name(s) be changed as indicated (if requested in paragraph 7);
- c) That the Court enter an order for DNA testing for the child(ren) (if requested in paragraph 6);
- d) That the Department of Vital Statistics be ordered and directed to amend the birth records of each child and reissue a birth certificate showing me, the Petitioner, as the father (if requested in paragraph 8) and changing each child's name as requested above (if requested in paragraph 7);
- e) That the Respondent be served with notice of this Petition as provided by law;
- f) That the Court order any and all other relief that it finds appropriate under the circumstances.

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.  
                   (day)                   (month)                   (year)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature, Petitioner *pro se*

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Printed Name

Address:

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

Telephone:

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

e-Mail:

\_\_\_\_\_

VERIFICATION

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

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned duly authorized officer to administer oaths,  
\_\_\_\_\_ (printed name of Petitioner), who on oath, states that the facts  
set forth in the above and foregoing PETITION FOR LEGITIMATION are true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Petitioner

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
My commission expires: