



# 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court for the County of Macomb

## AGENCY (OTHER) ADOPTION CHECKLIST

All adoption forms must be completed and signed legibly either print or type, with complete names (first, middle and last) as listed on the birth certificate(s). Make sure filings are complete. The checklist is intended to outline most of the documents needed. However, the court may require additional materials. Court personnel are unable to provide legal advice. To expedite the filing process, please organize the items below according to this checklist.

**All filings are by appointment only: (586) 469-5427**

Macomb County Adoption Department  
10 North Main Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Mt. Clemens, MI 48043

### **GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

- The adoption department cannot process adoptions for petitioner(s) who are not legally in the United States.
- Proper venue is in the county of residence of the adoptive parent(s); where the adoptee is found; or where the parent's parental rights were terminated or are pending termination. MCL 710.24
- Certified document(s) required for filing will not be returned to the petitioner(s).
- All adoption court forms recommended for use by the Michigan Supreme Court are available on-line at the State Court Administrative Office to complete and print. (website => courts.mi.gov)
- This checklist provides the corresponding recommended court form number(s) in parentheses.
- The failure to timely submit documentation may result in a dismissal of the case for lack of progress.

### **INITIAL DOCUMENTS REQUIRED:**

#### **PETITION(S) AND SUBSEQUENT FILING(S)**

1.  Agency cover letter
2.  Petition for adoption (PCA 301) (one per child, any name change should be reflected on the petition)

#### **FORMAL PLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS**

3.  Non-identifying and identifying information of the biological parents and child MCL 710.27
4.  A statement from petitioner(s) and the child placing agency or attorney that all medical and social history of the biological parents and child known to date has been shared per MCL 710.27(2) and (4).
5.  Acknowledgment by petitioner(s) regarding fees (Macomb County Adoption Department form)
6.  ICPC: Interstate Compact on Placement of Children, when applicable
7.  If the child placing agency is from out of state, then a copy of its current license with expiration date is required

#### **APPEALS**

8.  Report on Appeals and Rehearings (Macomb County Adoption Department form)
9.  Any appellate court decision(s), when applicable Note: please submit any and all decision(s) rendered.
10.  Report on pending or potential appeal/rehearing, when applicable (PCA 325)

#### **CRIMINAL & CENTRAL REGISTRY**

Petitioner(s) and any adult(s) residing in the home:

11.  Criminal background check(s) and central registry clearance(s) (DHS 612-CH)

#### **CONSENT BY AGENCY**

12.  Child placing agency grant of consent to adoption signed and notarized within 1 year of filing (PCA 309)

**CHILD FREE FOR ADOPTION**

(COURT SEAL NEEDED FOR ORDERS OUTSIDE OF MACOMB COUNTY)

13.  Order committing child to child placing agency (PCA 322)

14.  Order terminating father’s parental rights

Voluntary:

If the father voluntarily released his parental rights, then provide the following:

Release signed by parent and referee or judge (PCA 305)

Statement by parent accompanying release (PCA 338)

Involuntary:

If the father’s parental rights were terminated involuntarily, then provide the following:

Juvenile court order, or

If deceased, then a certified copy of the death certificate

15.  Order terminating mother’s parental rights

Voluntary:

If the mother voluntarily released her parental rights, then provide the following:

Release signed by parent and referee or judge (PCA 305)

Statement by parent accompanying release (PCA 338)

Involuntary:

If the mother’s parental rights were terminated involuntarily, then provide the following:

Juvenile court order, or

If deceased, then a certified copy of the death certificate

**ADOPTEE**

16.  Original birth certificate of adoptee

Note: if the adoptee was not born in the United States, then citizenship documentation is required

17.  Medical report current within 1 year of filing

18.  Adoptee immunization record(s)

**ACCOUNTING**

19.  Acknowledgment regarding fees (Macomb County Adoption Department form)

20.  Verified 7-day accounting itemized on the form with receipt(s)/invoice(s) attached: (one per child)

Petitioner(s) (PCA 347)

Agency (PCA 345)

Attorney(s) (PCA 346), when applicable

Parent/Guardian (PCA 348), when applicable

**HOME STUDY, ADOPTIVE FAMILY ASSESSMENT, OTHER AGENCY REPORT(S)**

21.  Adoptive family assessment report(s) – (most recent)

22.  Annual licensing assessment – (most recent)

23.  Any and all previous pre-placement assessments, adoptive family assessments, reassessments or addendums.

24.  Home study of petitioner(s), most recent

**ADOPTIVE PARENT(S)**

25.  Copy of each petitioner’s birth certificate

26.  Copy of each petitioner’s driver’s license or state identification

27.  Copy of petitioners’ current marriage certificate, when applicable

28.  Medical report for each petitioner current within 1 year of filing (DHS 3190)

29.  Copies of all marriage certificate(s) of each petitioner, when applicable

30.  Copies of all divorce decree(s) of each petitioner, when applicable

**ADOPTIVE PARENT(S)’ cont’d**

31.  Copy of death certificate of a previous spouse, when applicable Note: Not in lieu of a divorce decree.

32.  Copy of court order of legal name change, when applicable

33.  Copy of naturalization papers, when applicable

34.  Copy of guardianship order, when applicable

**INVESTIGATION(S)/COMPLAINT(S)**

- 35.  Any and all complaint(s)/investigation(s), when applicable (DHS 154)
- 36.  Any and all child protective services report(s) related to the complaint(s)/investigation(s), when applicable Note: If children protective services does not initiate an investigation report but instead screens out the investigation due to insufficient evidence of abuse and/or neglect via a written report, please provide such report. If no investigative report or screening out report is generated, then obtain a letter from child protective services indicating the results of the investigation
- 37.  Any and all corrective action plan(s) signed and dated by petitioner(s) and agency personnel and documentation whether the corrective action plan was completed, when applicable

**FINALIZATION DOCUMENTS REQUIRED:**

- 38.  Letter from petitioner(s) requesting finalization – only if no motion to waive supervision period is filed
- 39.  Supervisory report from child placing agency requesting finalization of adoption
- 40.  Motion to waive supervision period after formal placement, when applicable, (Macomb County Adoption Department form)
- 41.  Verified (Supplemental/21-day) accounting itemized on the form with receipt(s)/invoice(s) attached: (one per child)
  - Petitioner(s) (PCA 347a)
  - Agency (PCA 345)
  - Attorney(s), (PCA 346), when applicable
  - Parent/Guardian (PCA 348), when applicable
- 42.  Report to establish a new MI birth certificate (DCH-0854) (1 per child)
- 43.  Adoption facilitator clearing house record non-confidential information (DHS 4746)

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**COURT FEES** (All fees are non-refundable)

- \$235 filing fee must accompany each petition, (includes order placing w/petitioner(s), order terminating child placing agency, final order allowing fees and costs, and adoption order). This fee may be paid in cash, check or money order payable to the “Macomb County Family Division.”
- \$50 fee to establish a new Michigan birth certificate and \$16 for each additional copy – check or money order (no cash) made payable to “State of Michigan” is due at the time of requesting finalization. Upon finalization of the adoption, if requested, a new birth certificate will be created and the original birth record will be sealed.

**NOTE:** Birth certificates are amended in the adoptee’s state of birth. Fees and required documentation vary from state to state. If the adoptee was born in a state outside of Michigan, then it is the responsibility of Petitioner(s) to submit to our department the appropriate fees and document(s) required by that state’s respective vital records department to create a new birth record resulting from an adoption.

**ADDITIONAL FEES**

- Each subsequent petition, motion, etc. is a fee of \$20

**Any questions concerning these procedures, please contact your attorney, agency representative or the Macomb County Adoption Department at 586-469-5382, 586-469-5427**