

GETTING A COURT ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE LORAIN COUNTY

What to File:

- You will need:
- 1) Completed Application for Change of Name (adults: Forms 21.0 and 21.5) (minors: Forms 21.2, 21.4, and 21.5);
 - 2) Any type of copy of birth certificate; and
 - 3) \$134.00 Filing fee.

Note: An applicant for change of name must have lived in Lorain County for at least a year at the time of the application. The applicant need not present proof of residency. However, the applicant must sign the Application for Change of Name, which includes a statement that the applicant has lived in the county for at least one year immediately prior to filing the application.

Note: The Lorain County Probate Court does not grant fee waivers for name changes. Equitas Health and TransOhio are currently working to secure financial assistance for those who need help with fees.

Where to File:

File in person at the Lorain County Probate Court, located at 225 Court St., 6th Floor, Elyria, OH 44035, (440) 329-5175).

Fees:

\$134.00 filing fee, payable by cash, check, or money order made payable to Lorain County Probate Court.

Tips for Filing:

- Use your full middle name instead of your middle initial.
- You can either type the application or write using ink.

Publication:

You must publish notice of your name change application one time at least 30 days before your hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in Lorain County, such as the Chronicle-Telegram or the Morning Journal. The fee for publication will be about \$41.00 for the Chronicle-Telegram and about \$50.00 for the Morning Journal.

Once publication is complete, you must obtain proof of publication from the paper and present it to the court on or before your hearing. Because of the short time frame, we recommend visiting the paper immediately after filing with the court.

Hearing:

Lorain County Probate Court, 225 Court St., 6th Floor, Elyria, OH 44035, (440) 329-5175).

The materials available at this form or web site are for informational purposes only and not for the purpose of providing legal advice. You should contact your attorney or call the probate court to obtain advice with respect to any particular issue or problem.