

GETTING A COURT ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE STARK COUNTY

What to File:

- You will need:
- 1) Completed Application for Change of Name (Adults: Forms 21.0, 21.1, and 21.5) (Minors: Forms 21.2, 21.3, 21.4, and 21.5);
 - 2) Valid identification (driver's license or other ID card w/ picture);
 - 3) Certified copy of birth certificate presented with application; and
 - 4) \$84.00 filing fee.

Note: An applicant for change of name must have lived in Stark 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 Stark 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:

You must file in person at the Stark County Probate Court, 110 Central Plaza South, Suite 501, Canton, Ohio 44702, (330) 451-7755.

Fees:

\$84.00 filing fee, cash or certified check only. [payable to Stark County Probate Court]

Tips for Filing:

- Use your full middle name instead of your middle initial.
- Either type application or write using ink.

Publication:

Any newspaper with circulation in Stark County is acceptable, including the Canton Repository and the Massillon Independent. Prices start at approximately \$29 for both newspapers.

To properly publish notice, present Form 21.5 (Notice of Hearing on Change of Name) to the newspaper. Request a "proof of publication" from the newspaper to present to the court.

Remember: notice of your name change application must be published **at least 30 days before** your hearing. Because of this timeline, we recommend you visit the newspaper immediately after you file in the probate court.

Hearing:

Stark County Probate Court, 110 Central Plaza South, Suite 501, Canton, Ohio 44702, (330) 451-7755.

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.