IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & WELFARE

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER – GOVERNOR
RICHARD M. ARMSTRONG – DIRECTOR

JAMES B. AYDELOTTE – STATE REGISTRAR AND BUREAU CHIEF
BUREAU OF VITAL RECORDS AND HEALTH STATISTICS
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0036
PHONE 208-334-5980
FAX 208-332-7260

HOW DO I ADD A NATURAL (BIOLOGICAL) FATHER TO AN IDAHO BIRTH CERTIFICATE WITH A VOLUNTARY ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PATERNITY?

Paternity of a child may be established if the natural parents complete and file a voluntary acknowledgment of paternity. After paternity is established, the father's information may only be removed by a court of law. Do not sign the voluntary acknowledgment if you are uncertain of paternity of the child.

If the mother of a child born in the state of Idaho is **not married** at the time of conception, birth, or anytime between the conception and birth of the child, the biological father's information can be entered on the birth certificate upon receipt of a properly completed Acknowledgment of Paternity Affidavit* signed by the mother and the biological father in the presence of a notary public.

Per Idaho state law, if the mother of a child born in the state of Idaho is **married** at the time of conception, birth, or anytime between the conception and birth, her husband is the legal father and his information must be entered on the birth certificate unless this office receives a properly completed Acknowledgment of Paternity Affidavit* signed in the presence of a notary public by the *biological* parents and the legal father (husband) stating that he is not the biological father of the child. Upon receipt of this affidavit, the biological father's information can be entered on the birth certificate.

The Acknowledgment of Paternity Affidavit* can be completed at the birth facility at the time of the child's birth, or it can be obtained from:

- Hospitals and birthing facilities
- Local offices of Idaho Child Support Services
- Our office lobby located at 450 W. State St., Boise, ID 83702
- By contacting this office at 208-334-5980; we will mail the form to you

If any party cannot be located or refuses to sign the Acknowledgment of Paternity Affidavit*, it will be necessary to provide a court order that; (1.) determines paternity of the child or (2.) excludes the legal father (husband) as the biological father. Please click on the link titled "HOW DO I FILE A COURT DETERMINATION OF PATERNITY" at http://vitalrecords.dhw.idaho.gov for more information.

If the natural parents of the child have married **after** the birth of the child and the mother was not married to anyone at the time of conception, birth, or anytime between the

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conception and birth of the child, the ***biological*** parents can complete an Acknowledgment of Paternity and Subsequent Marriage Affidavit.* This form will allow the biological father's information to be entered and allow the mother's married surname to be reflected on the birth certificate. If the mother was married to someone other than the biological father at the time of conception, birth, or anytime between conception and birth of the child, a three party Acknowledgment of Paternity Affidavit* (described above) or court order that excludes the legal father (husband) is required to be filed before filing this document. A certified copy of the marriage certificate is required to file the form unless the marriage occurred in the state of Idaho.

The Acknowledgment of Paternity and Subsequent Marriage Affidavit* can be obtained by contacting this office at 208-334-5980; we will mail the form to you

NOTE: FURNISHING FALSE OR FRAUDULENT INFORMATION AFFECTING A CERTIFICATE IS A <u>FELONY</u> AND MAY BE PUNISHABLE BY A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS ($5,000) OR IMPRISONMENT OF NOT MORE THAN FIVE (5) YEARS, OR BOTH

Provide a signed written request to process the paternity acknowledgment along with current identification of the person who signs the request. Your request also needs to provide the following information:

- Name of the child as it is currently listed on the birth certificate
- Child's date of birth
- Child's place of birth
- The mother's full maiden name and the biological father's full name
- Your relationship to the person(s) named on the certificate
- Your return address
- Your daytime telephone number

There is a $20.00 legal amendment fee to file a paternity action. The legal amendment fee <u>does not</u> include a certified copy of the certificate. Certified copies of the birth certificate are $16.00 each. The Idaho Vital Statistics Certificate Request Form* may be used to request a copy of the certificate, if desired.

Requests for legal actions are worked in the order they are received. Our response time to your request could take several weeks depending on the volume of requests received.

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The Idaho Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics does not have a public counter. Your request may be dropped off in our lobby drop box located at 450 West State Street, Boise, Idaho 83702, or mailed to our post office box:

VITAL RECORDS
P.O. BOX 83720
BOISE, ID 83720-0036

This office cannot update a birth certificate with a copy of genetic testing (DNA) results.

If you are the natural (biological) father of a child and wish to register a claim of paternity, you may request to have your name placed on the Putative Father Registry. Please click on the link titled "HOW DO I ADD MY NAME TO THE PUTATIVE FATHER REGISTRY" at http://vitalrecords.dhw.idaho.gov for more information.

* Please visit the following website to obtain forms:
http://vitalrecords.dhw.idaho.gov