

LOCAL CIVIL RULE 65

NAME CHANGES

(a) Separate Petitions Required. A separate petition shall be filed for each name party wishes changed.

(b) Hearing. All hearings on petitions for name changes shall be in open court and on the record.

(c) Minors.

(1) **Birth Certificate.** A certified copy of any minor applicant's birth certificate or suitable identification must be presented to the clerk for verification and copying.

(2) **Parental Notification.**

(a) A person petitioning to change the name of a minor child or ward must establish that both parents consent to the change in writing, or that the nonpetitioning parent has been served at least ten days before the hearing with a notice that includes the hearing date, the minor's current name, the name the petitioner desires the minor to assume, and the reasons for requesting the change of name.

(b) A person petitioning to change the name of a minor child may move the court for an order authorizing notice to a parent by publication. The requesting parent must certify under penalty of perjury that the whereabouts of the other parent are unknown. If authorized by the court, notice by publication one time in a newspaper of general circulation in the county of the nonpetitioning parent's last known address shall be deemed sufficient if it satisfied the requirements of L-CRLJ 65(c)(2)(a).

(c) Notification to the non-consenting parent may be waived by the court if the petitioner shows good cause for such waiver and the court makes a written finding that notification would not be in the best interest of the child.

(d) Contents of Petition. A petition for change of name must be sworn under oath and state the following:

- (1) The Petitioner's full present name and the full name the petitioner wishes to assume;
- (2) The Petitioner's date of birth;
- (3) That the Petitioner resides in Yakima County;
- (4) The reason for the request;
- (5) The application is not made for any illegal or fraudulent purpose;
- (6) The name change will not be detrimental to the interests of any other person;
- (7) The name of the Petitioner's father and mother, or, if brought on behalf of a minor, the name of the minor's father and mother;

(8) Whether the Petitioner is subject to the jurisdiction of the Washington State Department of Corrections and, if so, that Petitioner has provided a copy of the Petition to the Department at least five days before any hearing on the name change request;

(9) Whether the Petitioner is subject to the sex offender registration laws of the State of Washington and, if so, that Petitioner has provided copies of the Petition to the county sheriff and the Washington State Patrol at least five days before any hearing on the name change request.

(e) Contents of proposed Order. A Petitioner for change of name must file a proposed Order Changing Name that includes the following:

(1) The Petitioner's full name;

(2) The full name Petitioner seeks to assume;

(3) If the Petition is brought on behalf of a minor, a finding that both parents or guardians consent to the change, or that a non-consenting parent was served with notice of the proposed change as required by these rules, or that a non-consenting parent's legal rights were previously terminated by court order;

(4) A finding whether the Petitioner is subject to the jurisdiction of the Washington State Department of Corrections and, if so, whether Petitioner provided a copy of the Petition to the Department at least five days before the Order is to be entered;

(5) A finding whether the Petitioner is subject to the sex offender registration laws of the State of Washington and, if so, whether Petitioner provided copies of the Petition to the county sheriff and Washington State Patrol at least five days before the Order is to be entered;

(6) A finding that the Petition is not made for illegal or fraudulent purposes;

(7) A finding that the change of name will not be detrimental to the interests of any other person;

(8) If the Petition is brought on behalf of a minor, a finding that the name change is in the best interests of the minor.