

STOCKS & COLBURN

Family Law Attorneys and Mediators

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STEP-PARENT ADOPTION CHECK LIST

1. **Full** name of child to be adopted. Include name on birth certificate, if different. Sex of child to be adopted. Is the biological father's name on the birth certificate? (You will need a certified copy of birth certificate(s).)
2. Birth date of child to be adopted. Place of birth of child. Name of hospital
3. Full name (first, middle, last and *maiden*), address and telephone number of biological mother.
4. Full name (first, middle and last), address and telephone number of biological father. Is his name on the minor(s)' birth certificate?
5. Full name (first, middle and last), address and telephone number of person who is adopting child named in item 1.
6. Relationship of person named in item five to either person named in item 3 or person named in item 4, whichever applies. Date and place of marriage. (You will need a certified copy of marriage certificate - we can order if necessary, unless you were married under a confidential marriage license)
7. Provide all addresses for the last five years (including dates when you lived at each address)
8. Date and place biological parents were married.

9. If biological parents are divorced, give place and date of divorce and provide me with a copy of the paperwork that sets out the custody orders. (You will need a certified copy of final divorce decree(s).) If there was a paternity action, ie: orders for child support, custody, etc., please provide the court where the action was filed and the case number.
10. If one biological parent is deceased, give date and place of death. (You will need a certified copy of death certificate.)
11. If person named in item 5 is divorced or any former spouse is deceased, give name of former spouse(s), date(s) and place(s) of divorce or death. (You will need copies of death certificates and/or divorce decrees.)
12. If biological parent retaining his/her rights has been divorced, or any former spouse is deceased, give name of former spouse(s), date(s) and place(s) of divorce or death. (You will need copies of death certificates and/or divorce decrees.) You do not need to include the biological parent whose the parent of the minor child subject to this adoption (as it is already listed in item 8).
13. Is the person named in item 3 or 4 a registered member of an American Indian Tribe or an Alaskan Eskimo tribe?
14. Is the person named in item 3 or 4 (whichever applies) going to consent to the adoption? How do you know that?
15. When was the last time there was contact between the child and the person named in item 3 or 4 (whichever applies)? When did that person last pay any child support and/or provide any financial assistance to the biological parent for the minor child?
16. Provide me with a short history and/or with further details which you think I should be aware of.
17. Name by which adopted child will be known as after the adoption is finalized.

First

Middle

Last

**STEP-PARENT ADOPTION FEE SCHEDULE
AND FEE AGREEMENT**

ATTORNEY FEES

Step-parent adoption Petition with Consent of Parent or Deceased parent- Flat Fee	\$1,250.00
Step-parent adoption Petition without Consent of former spouse, requiring a search for former spouse, preparation of a FFCC Petition and Citation, and possibly one uncontested court appearance – Flat Fee*	\$2,500.00
Step-parent adoption Petition without Consent of Unmarried Parent, requiring a search, Petition to Terminate Rights of Parent with Summons and possibly one Uncontested court appearance - Flat Fee*	\$2,500.00
Any Step-parent adoption requiring publication - Additional charge	\$ 350.00

Any contested matter after first Citation hearing is charged at \$400.00 per hour for attorney Stocks' and/or Attorney Pogalies Colburn's time, and \$100 per hour for assistant's time plus costs. There is a flat fee charge of \$100.00 if an amended Adoption Request must be prepared based upon inaccurate information provided by client and/or a change of address during the adoption.

MANDATORY COSTS

County investigation fee	\$ 270.00
Filing fee - Per child	\$ 20.00

OTHER COSTS – Mandatory \$50.00 cost retainer to order the following:

- Citation - Personal process service	\$ 50-125 avg.
- Citation – Publication (if in San Diego)	\$ 50.00 avg.
- Birth certificate-Calif. (If we Order) (California)	\$ 15.00-\$18.00
- Marriage certificate-Calif. (If we Order) (California)	\$ 14.00
- Certified Divorce Decree-Calif.(If we Order)	\$ 5-20
- Certified Death Certificate (If we order)	\$ 5-20
- Actual Long distance, copies and postage charge	Varies
- Private Investigation charges	Varies

STOCKS & COLBURN presently maintains errors and omissions insurance that would apply to this case.

*This fee is not reduced if biological parent is eventually found and agrees/does sign a consent.

I agree to this fee schedule.

DATED: _____

SIGNED: _____
PERSON ADOPTING