

# Minnesota Voluntary Recognition of Parentage

### **Purpose**

Signing and filing this Recognition of Parentage (ROP) form establishes a legal relationship between a father and child when the biological father is not married to the child's mother. Signing and filing this form:

- Legally establishes the biological father's paternity
- Creates and waives certain rights and responsibilities for the mother, father and child
- · Allows the father's name to be on the child's birth record
- Provides a basis for establishing child support
- Does not establish custody or parenting time.

### **Instructions for parents**

Get answers to your questions before you sign this form. Signing this form is voluntary. If, you are unsure who the biological father is, you should not sign this document and you should have a genetic test. To obtain a genetic test, contact your county child support office or seek genetic testing services on your own. A Recognition of Parentage can be revoked by either parent if a written revocation signed by that parent in front of a notary public is filed with the Minnesota Department of Health, Office of Vital Records within 60 days after the Recognition of Parentage is signed. After 60 days, a fully executed and filed Recognition of Parentage has the same force and effect as a court order establishing paternity. Upon filing, the Department of Health will update the birth record with the father's name.

If you want to voluntarily establish the legal relationship between a father and child when the father is not married to the child's mother:

- Read all four pages of this form and the booklet Being a Legal Father: Parentage information for mothers and fathers (DHS-3159A) carefully or have someone read them to you
- · Watch the paternity establishment video
- If the mother was married to a person other than the child's biological father, the mother's spouse must also sign and submit a Spouse's Non-Parentage Statement and file with the Minnesota Department of Health
- Fill out all of this form with information that matches your child's birth record
- Ask for a new form if you make a mistake. Do not cross out words, leave blanks or make corrections
- Sign this form in front of a notary public
- File this completed form with the Minnesota Department of Health.

When you sign this form, you may also change your child's last name from what is on your child's birth record. If you want to change the last name and both parents agree, write your child's new last name in the designated box. If you do not want to change the last name or if your child's birth record is not filed yet, write your child's current last name in the box.

## Instructions for assisting agencies

- Provide verbal notice to the parents of their rights, responsibilities and their alternatives to signing this Recognition of Parentage.
- Complete the Agency section on the bottom of the completed Recognition of Parentage by checking a box and
  writing the name of the agency where the form is completed.
- Fax or send the form to the Minnesota Department of Health.
- Give each parent a copy of the form and keep the original or a copy for your records.
- Follow your agency's policies and procedures for contacting the parents to sign and file a new form if you become aware that the form is rejected by the Minnesota Department of Health.

## Fax this completed form to 651-215-5834.

If you are unable to fax this form, mail it to: Minnesota Department of Health Office of Vital Records P.O. Box 64499 St. Paul, MN 55164-0499 Attention. If you need free help interpreting this document, ask your worker or call the number below for your language.

ያስተውሉ፡ ይህንን ዶኩ*መን*ት ለመተርንም እርዳታ የሚፈልጉ ከሆነ፡ የጉዳዮን ሰራተኛ ይጠይቁ ወይም በሰልክ ቁጥር 1-844-217-3547 ይደውሉ።

ملاحظة: إذا أردت مساعدة مجانية لترجمة هذه الوثيقة، اطلب ذلك من مشرفك أو اتصل على الرقم 0377-358-800-1.

သတိ။ ဤစာရွက်စာတမ်းအားအခမဲ့ဘာသာပြန်ပေးခြင်း အကူအညီလိုအပ်ပါက၊ သင့်လူမှုရေးအလုပ်သမား အားမေးမြန်း ခြင်းသို့ မဟုတ် 1-844-217-3563 ကိုခေါ် ဆိုပါ။

កំណត់សំគាល់ ។ បើអ្នកត្រូវការជំនួយក្នុងការបកប្រែឯកសារនេះដោយឥតគិតថ្លៃ សូមសួរអ្នកកាន់សំណុំរឿង របស់អ្នក ឬហៅទូរស័ព្ទមកលខេ 1-888-468-3787 ។

請注意,如果您需要免費協助傳譯這份文件,請告訴您的工作人員或撥打 1-844-217-3564。

Attention. Si vous avez besoin d'une aide gratuite pour interpréter le présent document, demandez à votre agent chargé du traitement de cas ou appelez le 1-844-217-3548.

Thov ua twb zoo nyeem. Yog hais tias koj xav tau kev pab txhais lus rau tsab ntaub ntawv no pub dawb, ces nug koj tus neeg lis dej num los sis hu rau 1-888-486-8377.

ဟ်သူဉ်ဟ်သးဘဉ်တက္နာ်. ဖွဲ့နမ့်ာလိဉ်ဘဉ်တာမြာစားကလီလာတာကကျိုးထံဝဲဧဉ်လာ တီလာမီတခါအားနှဉ့်,သံကွာ်ဘဉ်ပှာ္နာ်ဝီအပူးမာစားတာလာနဂြီးမှတ မွှာ်ကိုးဘဉ် 1-844-217-3549 တက္နာ်.

알려드립니다. 이 문서에 대한 이해를 돕기 위해 무료로 제공되는 도움을 받으시려면 담당자에게 문의하시거나 1-844-217-3565으로 연락하십시오.

ໂປຣດຊາບ. ຖ້າຫາກ ທ່ານຕ້ອງການການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອໃນການແປເອກະສານນີ້ຟຣີ, ຈົ່ງຖາມພະນັກງານກຳກັບການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອ ຂອງທ່ານ ຫຼື ໂທຣໄປທີ່ 1-888-487-8251.

Hubachiisa. Dokumentiin kun bilisa akka siif hiikamu gargaarsa hoo feete, hojjettoota kee gaafadhu ykn afaan ati dubbattuuf bilbilli 1-888-234-3798.

Внимание: если вам нужна бесплатная помощь в устном переводе данного документа, обратитесь к своему социальному работнику или позвоните по телефону 1-888-562-5877.

Digniin. Haddii aad u baahantahay caawimaad lacag-la'aan ah ee tarjumaadda qoraalkan, hawlwadeenkaaga weydiiso ama wac lambarka 1-888-547-8829.

Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para interpretar este documento, comuníquese con su trabajador o llame al 1-888-428-3438.

Chú ý. Nếu quý vị cần được giúp đỡ dịch tài liệu này miễn phí, xin gọi nhân viên xã hội của quý vị hoặc gọi số 1-888-554-8759.



For accessible formats of this publication or assistance with additional equal access to human services, write to DHS.Info@state.mn.us, call 651-431-4400, or use your preferred relay service. (ADA1 [9-15])

LB1 (8-16)

# Minnesota Voluntary Recognition of Parentage

		•	•			_	
FIRST NAME		MIDDLE NAME		LAST NAME	=		SUFFIX (Jr., Sr., I, II, etc.)
DATE OF BIRTH	BIRTH PLACE (city/state)						
Do you want to char If yes, write the new last If no, write the current la	t name in the	box to the right.	s O No	CHILD'S	S LAST NAME		
FIRST NAME	MI	DDLE NAME	LAST NA	AME		SUFFIX	DATE OF BIRTH (mm/dd/yyyy)
BIRTH PLACE (city/state)			'		SOCIAL SECURITY	NUMBER	PHONE NUMBER (optional)
MAILING ADDRESS			CITY			STATE	ZIP CODE
○Yes ○No If	yes, the spous	other than the biologica se/ex-spouse must also file d's birth to put the name o	a Spouse's	Non-parent	tage Statement (F	orm DHS	
FIRST NAME	MI	DDLE NAME	LAST NA	AME		SUFFIX	DATE OF BIRTH (mm/dd/yyyy)
BIRTH PLACE (city/state)	-		- 1		SOCIAL SECURITY	NUMBER	PHONE NUMBER (optional)
MAILING ADDRESS			CITY			STATE	ZIP CODE
		_			_		!

#### By signing this Recognition of Parentage, I swear or affirm all the following:

- I am the biological parent of the child named above.
- The rights, responsibilities, alternatives and legal consequences associated with signing this form as outlined in the Parent's statement, Waiver of rights and Custody and parenting time information sections of this form have been explained to me verbally and/or in writing and I understand and accept them
- To the best of my knowledge, all of the above information is true and correct.
- I understand that I have the right to genetic tests. If I have not had genetic testing, I am certain that the father listed above is the biological father of the child.
- I understand that signing this form does not establish custody or parenting time and the mother has sole custody until a court orders otherwise.

- I understand that signing this form allows the court to order child support.
- I am voluntarily signing this form for the purpose of establishing paternity for my child and making sure both parents are listed on my child's birth record.
- I understand that I have the right to revoke this Recognition of Parentage within 60 days. I understand that I may revoke the Recognition of Parentage by signing a written revocation in front of a notary public and filing it with the Minnesota Department of Health, Office of Vital Records. I understand that if the Recognition of Parentage is not revoked within 60 days, it has the same force and effect as a court order establishing paternity and would take a court order to undo.

#### Mother's signature x\_\_\_\_\_

NOTARY PUBLIC	In the state of, County of Signed and sworn/affirmed to before me this (mm/dd/yy):
	Notary Public Signature My commission expires
AGENCY	Form completed at:  MDH DHS County Hospital Other (agency name)

#### Biological father's signature x\_\_\_\_

	of, Count	•				
Signed and sworn/affirmed to before me this (mm/dd/yy):						
NOTARY STAMP						
	Notary Public Signature	My commission expires				

#### Parent's statement

I swear/affirm that:

- I have been told about the Recognition of Parentage form and understand my rights and responsibilities created and waived by signing this form.
- I have a copy of Being a Legal Father: Parentage information for mothers and fathers (DHS-3159A). I read the booklet or had someone else read it to me.
- I have received additional oral notice about my rights, responsibilities and alternatives to signing this form, and/or had the opportunity the view the paternity establishment video which is available online and at all county child support offices.
- I understand that either of us may choose not to acknowledge paternity. As alternatives to signing the Recognition of Parentage, either of us could ask the court to decide on paternity or we could acknowledge paternity later.
- I acknowledge that we are the biological parents of the child named in this Recognition of Parentage.
- I understand that this Recognition of Parentage does not give custody or parenting time to the legal father. However, this Recognition of Parentage gives the father the right to ask the court for temporary or permanent custody and/or parenting time.
- If I sign this Recognition of Parentage and pursue a court order for custody, I understand that under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 518, there is no presumption for or against joint physical custody except in cases involving domestic abuse between the parents.
- I understand that either of us can take legal action to establish paternity instead of signing the Recognition of Parentage and that either of us may apply for paternity establishment services at our local child support office.
- I understand that either of us can choose to have genetic testing done before we sign the Recognition of Parentage.
- I accept responsibility to provide financial child support for my child. I understand that a court can order financial child support that can include payments for basic, medical and child care support going back to the date of my child's birth or two years from the start of a legal action, whichever is earlier, and continuing until a court order for support ends.
- I understand that financial support can also include the following: reimbursement of public assistance furnished for the benefit of my child, reimbursement of the pregnancy and confinement expenses associated with my child's birth, reimbursement of any genetic testing fees paid by the public authority.
- I understand that both parents have the right to all notices of any adoption proceedings.

- I understand that this is a legal document. If we are both age 18 or older when we sign this form, this Recognition of Parentage is the same as a court order determining the legal relationship between a father and child.
- I understand that if either of us is under age 18 when
  we sign this form, this Recognition of Parentage is only
  a presumption of paternity. It is not final. I understand
  that I have six months after the youngest of us turns 18
  to take legal action to declare the nonexistence of the
  father and child relationship.
- I understand that either of us can cancel this Recognition of Parentage by stating in writing that, "I am revoking the Recognition of Parentage." I understand that I must sign the revocation in front of a notary public and that I must file the revocation with the Office of Vital Records within 60 days after I sign this form. If I have not filed a revocation within 60 days, I understand that this Recognition of Parentage will have the same force and effect as a court order establishing paternity. If I still want to cancel this Recognition of Parentage after the 60 days, I understand that I will need to take legal action to request that the court change any of the information in this Recognition of Parentage which the court may or may not do.
- I understand that this Recognition of Parentage will not be considered valid if the mother of the child was married to another person at the time this child was conceived or born unless this Recognition of Parentage is filed in conjunction with a Spouse's Non-parentage Statement.
- To the best of my knowledge, the information on this form is true.
- I am signing this form voluntarily. No one forced me to sign this Recognition of Parentage.

## Waiver of rights

# By signing this Minnesota Voluntary ROP form (DHS-3159), you give up the right to:

- Participate in a paternity proceeding, where an attorney could represent me
- A trial to determine if the man is the biological father of the child
- Cross-examine witnesses in a paternity proceeding
- Testify about who is the biological father of the child in a paternity proceeding.

### **Custody and parenting time information**

When a child is born to parents who are not married to each other the law gives custody of the child to the mother. If either parent wants a different custody arrangement, the parents must go to court.

Please contact an attorney if there are any questions.