

ADULT NAME CHANGE INFORMATION SHEET

WAHKIAKUM COUNTY DISTRICT COURT
64 Main St / PO Box 144
Cathlamet, WA 98612
Telephone (360) 795-3461

WHERE TO FILE:

If you wish to change your name, you may petition the Wahkiakum County District Court. You may obtain petition and order forms and other important information from the District Court Clerk at the address noted above. If you are the victim of domestic violence, and you wish to have the name change file sealed because of a reasonable fear for the safety of yourself, you may file your Petition for Name Change with the WAHKIAKUM COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT.

WHAT TO FILE:

You must present a piece of identification which contains your photograph and signature and file the Petition for Name Change (Adult Petitioner).

WHO MUST BE PRESENT AT THE COURT HEARING:

You must attend the hearing unless your attendance has been waived by the judge hearing the Petition for Name Change.

IF YOU ARE A PERSON CURRENTLY UNDER JURISDICTION OF DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS:

You must show the court proof that you have submitted a copy of your Petition for Name Change to the Department of Corrections DOC at least five (5) days before the court hears your petition. Proof of Service must be in a form similar to the Return of Service form, which you can get from the Clerk.

IF THE PETITIONER IS REQUIRED TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER:

The petitioner must show the court proof that a copy of the Petition for Name Change was submitted to the sheriff of the county of residence and to the Washington State Patrol at least five (5) days before the court hears the petition. Proof of Service must be in a form similar to the Return of Service form, which you can get from the Clerk. If the petition is granted, then the petitioner must submit a copy of the Court's Order to the same agencies within three (3) business days of the entry of the Order.

FEES:

The fee to file a Petition for Name Change is \$73.00 and if granted, there is a \$204.50 recording fee to be payable to the Wahkiakum County Auditor. **This is a non-refundable fee.**

COPIES OF ORDER CHANGING NAME:

You will receive two (2) certified copies of the Order Changing Name without additional cost. Additional certified copies of the Order may be obtained from the Wahkiakum County Auditor after recording.

HEARING AND COURTROOM PROCEDURE:

When you file your Petition for Name Change, the Clerk will assign a courtroom hearing date. On the hearing date, please come to the front of the courtroom when the judge calls your name. The judge will ask you some general questions. If the judge allows the name change, you will be given two (2) certified copies of the signed Order Changing Name after the hearing.

IF THE ORDER IS GRANTED:

It is up to you to notify schools, State and Federal government agencies, and any banking institutions of this order. Each office will have specific requirements.