

REGISTER AND CLERK

Wendy Yaros

McKEAN COUNTY
REGISTER OF WILLS
CLERK OF ORPHANS' COURT
P.O. Box 202
Smethport, PA 16749
Phone (814)887-3260

FIRST DEPUTY

Terri Dodge

SECOND DEPUTY

Shellie Blauser

To Whom It May Concern:

It is our understanding that you are interested in obtaining information regarding an adoption that took place in McKean County Orphans' Court Division. An Established procedure to handle such a request is attached. You may file a Petition for Release of Identifying Information or a Petition to Release Limited Information depending on your needs. The Petitioner must be:

1. An adoptee who is at least 18 years of age.
2. An adoptive parent of an adoptee who is:
 - A. Under 18 years of age.
 - B. Adjudicated incapacitated and is 18 years of age or older
 - C. Deceased.
3. A legal guardian of an adoptee who is under 18 years of age or adjudicated.
4. A descendant of a deceased adoptee.
5. A birth parent of an adoptee who is 21 years of age or older.
6. A parent of a birth parent of an adoptee who is 21 years of age or older.
7. A birth sibling of an adoptee, if both the birth sibling and adoptee are 21 years of age or older and:
 - A. A birth sibling remained in the custody of the birth parent and the birth parent consents, is deceased or adjudicated incapacitated.
 - B. Both the birth sibling and the adoptee were adopted out of the same birth family.
 - C. The birth sibling was not adopted out of the birth family and did not remain in the custody of the birth parent.

The Petitioner may request information or contact with the following individuals

1. An adoptee who is 21 years of age or older.
2. A birth parent of an adoptee.

3. A parent of a birth parent of an adoptee who is 21 years of age or older, if the birth parent consents, is adjudicated incapacitated or is deceased.
4. A birth sibling of an adoptee, if both the birth sibling and the adoptee are 21 years of age or older.
 - A. The birth sibling remained in the custody of the birth parent and the birth parent consents, is deceased or adjudicated incapacitated.
 - B. Both the birth sibling and the adoptee were adopted out of the same birth parent.

If you are interested in initiating a search to learn an identity in an adoption, you must fill out the PETITION FOR RELEASE IDENTIFYING INFORMATION or PETITION FOR RELEASE NON-IDENTIFYING INFORMATION at a total cost of \$100.25. Please make checks payable to the Clerk of Orphans' Court. It can either be mailed in or hand delivered to the office with you Petition.

PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT OUR OFFICE HAS A LEGAL OBLIGATION OF CONFIDENTIALITY regarding all adoptions proceeding. This prevents us from doing anything other than what has already been stated above. Please feel free to contact our office if you have any further questions regarding these procedures.

We wish you the best of luck in your search.

Respectfully,



Wendy Yaros

Register of Wills / Clerk of Orphans' Court