

Oakland County Circuit Court – Family Division, Adoption Services

Explanation of Confidential Intermediary Services

The Confidential Intermediary (CI) Program has been established to allow for the search and possible contact by former family members and the adoptee. A CI acts as a court-appointed liaison between the petitioner and the individual being sought. The petition to appoint a CI is filed with the court where the adoption was finalized, generally where the adoptive family lived. The adoptee is the person who was adopted. We recommend that before petitioning for a CI, that you first contact the agency that facilitated the adoption.

Confidential Intermediaries are private individuals who have completed specific training to become confidential intermediaries. They will charge a fee for this service which is separately contracted. Once the court appoints the confidential intermediary you will receive a separate contract from that person. The fees are usually around \$300 for the first search.

A CI is appointed on behalf of the petitioner. The petitioner can be one of the following individuals:

1. an adult adoptee
2. an adult child of a deceased adoptee
3. a birth parent of the adoptee
4. an adult birth sibling to the adoptee
5. an adoptive parent of a minor adoptee
6. birth grandparent

The documents listed are required if you are requesting a search. Please pay close attention to your relationship to the adoptee.

An adult adoptee searching for birth parents and/or birth siblings:

1. *Confidential Intermediary Petition* (PCA 342)
2. A copy of your driver's license or picture identification
3. *Release of Information Authorization Adult Adoptee* (DHS-1920). This is your consent to release your identifying information to an immediate birth family member if he or she should inquire with our office. This form is optional.
4. \$20 filing fee. Check or money orders are made payable to the Oakland County Clerk. Please submit a money order if you live out of the state of Michigan.

Birth parent of the adult adoptee:

1. *Confidential Intermediary Petition* (PCA 342)
2. A copy of your driver's license or picture identification
3. *Parent's Consent/Denial to Release Information to Adult Adoptee* (DHS-1919)
4. \$20 filing fee. Check or money orders are made payable to the Oakland County Clerk. Please submit a money order if you live out of the state of Michigan.

Former birth sibling of the adult adoptee:

1. *Confidential Intermediary Petition* (PCA 342)
2. A copy of your driver's license or picture identification
3. *Adult Former Sibling Statement to Release Information to Adoptee* (DHS-1917)
4. Proof of relationship to adoptee (Copy of birth certificate to show common parent)
5. \$20 filing fee. Check or money orders are made payable to the Oakland County Clerk. Please submit a money order if you live out of the state of Michigan.