

Overview – Extra Steps Required When Person Seeking Name Change is Incarcerated, on Probation or Parole, or Required to Register as a Sexual Offender or Offender Against Children.

General Information:

Before reading this Overview, please be sure you have read the Overview titled “Filing for a Name Change and the Necessary Documents” which applies to everyone filing a Petition for Name Change.

Persons seeking a name change while incarcerated or on probation or parole, or who are required to register as a sexual offender or offender against children, must take additional steps in order to file a Petition for Name Change.

In these cases, the law (RSA 547:3-i) requires that the Petitioner make a compelling showing that a name change is necessary. This information will be required during the electronic guided interview to complete the Name Change Petition.

For a person who is incarcerated, or on probation or parole, the Petitioner must arrange for a copy of the petition to be served by the Sheriff on the appropriate Department of Corrections (either the County Department of Corrections or the NH Department of Corrections.) The court will send instructions for service.

For a person who is required to register as a sexual offender, or an offender against children, and who is no longer subject to supervision by the Department of Corrections, the Petitioner must arrange for a copy of the petition to be served by the Sheriff on the NH Department of Safety. The court will send instructions for service.

Other Details:

If the Petition for Name Change is granted, the court will issue a copy of the order to the Department of Corrections or the Department of Safety and to the Petitioner.

Also, if the name change is granted, there are steps the Petitioner must take to make sure other necessary agencies are notified of the name change. These steps are described in the Overview listed below, titled “Required Steps If A Name Change Petition Is Granted”.

Other Helpful Resources:

RSA:

RSA 547:3-i

RSA 550:4

RSA 547:29

Checklists:

Name Change (Adult)

Name Change (Minor)

Overview:

Filing for a Name Change and the Necessary Documents

Required Steps If a Name Change Petition Is Granted

For Further Information:

If you have questions, please contact the Information Center at 1-855-212-1234