

Overview - Filing an Objection to a Petition for Name Change

General Information:

When a Petition for Name Change is filed to change the name of an **adult** there is typically no requirement that anyone be sent a copy of the petition. However, there are some exceptions. In those cases where another party must be sent the petition, the party receiving the petition has the right to file an **objection** with the court if they disagree with the name change request.

When a Petition for Name Change is filed seeking to change the name of a **minor** (a person under the age of 18), the minor's parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) must be sent a copy of the petition unless each of them sign a consent form. The parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) have a right to file an objection with the court if they disagree with the name change request.

When a Petition for Name Change of a **minor or adult** is filed and the **minor or adult** is incarcerated, or on probation or parole, or is required to register as a sexual offender or an offender against children, then the Department of Corrections or Department of Safety must be served with a copy of the petition. Those departments have the right to file an objection with the court if they disagree with the name change request.

Other Details:

There is a court form in the electronic program that may be used for filing an objection. On that form, the person filing the objection must list the reasons they disagree with the name change being granted.

If an objection is filed with the court, a copy must be sent by the objecting party to the Petitioner and to all other parties in the case, if any.

Other Helpful Resources:

RSA:

RSA 547:3-i

RSA 550:4

RSA 547:29

For Further Information:

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