

Busy Person's Guide to

# Name Change

*The Who, What, Where, How Long, How Much, and How To ...*

of Name Change from California – Fast and EZ



# Table of Contents

---

## The Busy Person's Guide to Name Change

Introduction

1. WHO can get a Name Change
2. WHAT is a Legal Name Change
3. WHERE do you get a Name Change
4. HOW LONG does it take to Change Your Name
5. HOW MUCH does Name Change Cost
6. HOW TO – What are the steps

Start Your Name Change Now

Nationwide Legal Network, Inc



**EZ** Name Change



# Introduction

---

**Name Change is semi-complicated.** You definitely don't need an attorney to get it done, but you can have a lawyer if you want. The vast majority of people who go through the court process to get the Legal Name they want, do it without a lawyer.

**You definitely CAN do this!** You can do it all by yourself if you want to take the time necessary and if you have patience. There are a lot of rules, paperwork, procedures and people to deal with, but it's doable when you know how it all works.

**You can also have FULL SERVICE Name Change, if you want.** EZ Name Change is a Registered and Bonded Legal Document Assistant. If you want, we can do all your court forms, file your Petition, and run the required advertising for you. With this Guide, you can choose what level of help you want, if any.

This *Busy Person's Guide to NAME CHANGE in California* will tell you what you need to know about how Legal Name Change gets done. There are links throughout to get you more information and links to EZ Name Change FULL SERVICE too.

This is yours to keep. Refer to whenever you you're ready!



# WHO

---

## WHO can get Name Change?

Anyone can file a Petition for Change of Name. **Almost all Petitions are approved.** Adults, Children, even whole families can have their Names Legally Changed. It happens every day.

Any adult can Petition  
For Change of Name

Any parent can Petition  
to change a child's name.



If both parents sign the Petition for Change of Name, the process is simpler . If one parent is not going signing the Petition, the non-consenting parent must be served notice unless your judge determines otherwise ([see CCP 1277a, para 4](#))

### **WHO** Can't?

Your Petition can be denied. Almost all Name Change Petitions are approved, but some Petitions are denied. "[Can My Name Change be Denied?](#)"



# WHAT

---

## WHAT is a Legal Name Change



**Legal Name Change is done by Court Order.**

The Process you go through to get the Court Order is called Petition for Change of Name. The Court Order you get , after approval, is called a Decree Changing Name. There are some other kinds of Legal Name Change (e.g., Usage or Marriage).

### **WHAT proves that Your Name has been Legally Changed?**

**A Decree Changing Name** is a court order. **A Certified Copy of the Decree Changing Name** is what they want to see before agreeing to change name records at Social Security, Passport, DMV, Schools, Birth Certificate, Banks and other Important places where ID is issued.



# WHERE

---

## WHERE do you get a Name Change?

**The Name Change Superior Court of the County where you live...** that's where you go to get your Name Legally Changed.

**Not all courts do Name Changes**, not even all Superior Courts. If you're going to try and go through the Name Change process yourself, be sure you're getting all the correct and current forms and are submitting your Petition to the correct court.



**Many people assume you have to get a Legal Name Change from the State where you were born. That's not the way it works.** Your birth certificate is kept in the State where you were born. And, you can get a new or amended birth certificate from the state where you were born, depending on their rules. But you can only get a legal name change from the County Superior Court in the State where you live now.

# HOW LONG

---

## When can I have my Name Change

**Getting Your Name Change finished takes 3 steps:**

- **Prepare a Petition for Change of Name**
- **Get a Decree Changing Name (Court Order)**
- **Change Your Records**

For a more complete explanation of the steps and their time frames, click the picture



<b>Petition</b>	<b>2 days</b>
<b>Decree</b>	<b>2 months</b>
<b>Records</b>	<b>1 - 6 months</b>

Many factors can change how long Name Change will take you: Court Backlog, wrong paperwork, patience and perseverance, whether you have help or try to do every things yourself.

**This is a semi-complicated process. Plan your time accordingly.**



# HOW MUCH

## What's it going to cost?

To get a Decree Changing Name, you have to go through a process. There are costs in the process and you can pay for services too.



	<b>EZ Ready-To-File</b>	<b>Do-it-Yourself</b>
<b>PETITION –</b>	\$ 115.	\$ 0.
<b>ADVERTISING –</b>	80.	80.
<b>COURT FILING</b>	435.	435.
<b>DECREE</b>	0.	0.
<b>CERTIFIED COPY</b>	25.	25.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 655.</b>	<b>\$ 540.</b>

EZ Name Change can also File and Advertise for you for an additional \$75 fee. Your actual court and advertising costs may vary based on your location. Call us any time for an exact quote for your area. We recommend you get at least 2 Certified Copies. Court Filing and Certified Copy costs can be waived if you cannot afford to pay them. Ask us for a Fee Waiver Request Forms.



# HOW TO

## How Does The Whole Process Work

To get a Decree Changing Name, you have to go through a process.

- COURT – Find the right Superior Court for where you live. Get ALL the right forms for Your Name Change.
- PETITION – Completely and correctly fill out all the forms. Prepare and file all the copies required for filing.
- NOTICE – Newspaper Ad once a week for 4 weeks. For minors, non-consenting parent notice.
- HEARING – About 2 months after filing, you go to a Hearing. Get Decree Changing Name, upon approval. Get Certified Copy(s) same day from court.

[Click for more information of the California Name Change process](#)

Name Change isn't free, easy, or quick. But when You get your Decree in Your hands, it's a deeply satisfying achievement.



EZ Name Change is proud to help people achieve their Name Change Goals daily

---

# Get Your Name Change Started Order Your Petition Today

If you have all the information you need, and want EZ Name Change to help you with Your Court Ordered Name Change, just click on the link below and get this process started!

---

[Start My Name  
Change Now](#)

When you set up your EZ Name Change Account, we'll know exactly which court, which forms, and what information will be required for your Name Change.

It will take 15 minutes or less to provide the information needed by your court and to pay our \$115 fee. You can choose to have us file and advertise for you or not, and then get your Ready-to-Sign and File Petition in a few days.

Get the exact Legal Name you want!

