

**RELEASE OF ADOPTION INFORMATION  
FOR TIME PERIOD OF 1964 THROUGH 1996**

Adoption records during the period of 1964 through 1996 are closed and confidential. Any person that is 21 years of age or older who believes he/she is an adopted person may file a Petition in the Probate Court in the county in which he/she resides or in the Probate Court which entered the Final Decree of Adoption for the release of identifying information regarding his/her name at birth and the identity of his/her biological parents.

Following the filing of the Petition, the Judge of the Probate Court shall appoint an agency to contact the Department of Health to ascertain whether either of the biological parents has a release signifying a willingness to have information identifying them released.

If the agency determines that the parents have filed releases and the Department of Health provides a copy of the releases, the Judge shall enter an Order granting the Petition in relation to each biological parent who has filed a release which has not been withdrawn.

If the Petitioner was adopted, but there are no releases on file and the agency or the Court does not determine that the biological parents are deceased, the Judge shall order the Petition to remain pending until withdrawn by the Petitioner or there are subsequent filings of releases or until the death of the biological parents.

A copy of the Petition form is enclosed herewith. The Petition must be accompanied by a fee of \$50.00 in the form of a check or money order payable to the Fairfield County Probate Court. This matter will be set for a non-oral hearing, **at which no one is to appear**, approximately 90 days out, to allow the appointed agency time to investigate this petition.

A release of identifying information without a court order is a criminal offense pursuant to law.