

## Petition for Adoption of a Foreign Born Child Checklist

### *Before Filing:*

- \_\_\_\_ Verify that at least one of the following facts applies to your case (if they do NOT, a re-adoption may not be required and a Registration of Foreign Decree may be an option, which does not require a hearing):
- Both Parents, or just the sole parent if only one parent is adopting, were not present for the adoption hearing in the foreign country
  - The foreign court did not enter a final adoption decree or its equivalent
  - The child's visa is not the type that would afford the child full United States Citizenship (IR-4 & IH-4 Visas)

### *To Be Attached to the Petition in the order they appear:*

- \_\_\_\_ Preliminary Decree
- \_\_\_\_ Final Decree
- \_\_\_\_ Petition for Adoption of a Foreign Born Child
- \_\_\_\_ Signed by Adoptive Parent(s) – if the foreign decree shows two adopting parents, both parents must sign the Petition
- \_\_\_\_ Verified by Adoptive Parent(s)
- \_\_\_\_ *Adoptive Parent(s) reside(s) in Montgomery County*
- \_\_\_\_ Copy of the child's United States visa
- \_\_\_\_ Home study, clearances, post-placement reports
- \_\_\_\_ Copy of the child's birth certificate (if available)
- \_\_\_\_ English Translation – Certified by the translator to be true and correct
- \_\_\_\_ Copy of relevant foreign decrees
- \_\_\_\_ English Translation – Certified by the translator to be true and correct
- \_\_\_\_ Consents of any person and/or agency having custody and/or legal and/or physical rights to the child (if applicable)
- \_\_\_\_ Report of Intermediary (if an intermediary agency was involved)
- \_\_\_\_ Certificate of Adoption of Foreign-Born Child (Form HD01273F) with Parts 1 & 2 (and Part 3, if applicable) completed
- \_\_\_\_ Statement of Citizenship & Residency (Form HD01275F)
- \_\_\_\_ Copy of U.S. Government Form N-560 (Certificate of Citizenship) and/or a copy of the child's U.S. Passport

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF  
\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION**

**(FAMILY COURT DIVISION in Philadelphia County)**

IN RE: ADOPTION OF \_\_\_\_\_  
(initials only)

ADOPTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**PETITION FOR ADOPTION OF A FOREIGN BORN CHILD**

To the Honorable, the Judge of said Court:

The Petition of \_\_\_\_\_ under  
(Name(s) of Adopting Parent(s))

23 Pa. C.S. §§ 2701 and 2908 respectfully states that:

1. At least one of the Petitioners filing this Petition is a resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and has resided in this Commonwealth since

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Provide at least month and year)

2. No other court in this Commonwealth or in any other state has reviewed, registered, finalized or otherwise assumed jurisdiction over the adoption of this child, except as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

(Provide name of court, county and state)

Explain the proceeding previously initiated and the resulting decision from the court:  
(Attach all court decrees).

3. Petitioner(s) desire(s) to adopt this child known as

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of child as written on Foreign Decree)

and intend that such child shall be treated as one of (his/her/their) heirs and hereby declare(s) that (he/she/they) will perform all the duties of parent(s) to him/her.

4. The child has entered the United States pursuant to a United States visa. A true and correct copy of the United States visa is attached as an exhibit to this Petition. The United States visa was issued as an:

(Please circle one) IR-2, IR-3, IH-3, IR-4 or IH-4

5. a) The child's full name as shown on the United States visa is

\_\_\_\_\_  
b) The full birth name of the child as listed on the foreign birth certificate (if

available) is \_\_\_\_\_

c) The full name of the child as it appears on the foreign decree is \_\_\_\_\_

d) The full name of the child as he/she is to be known from this time forward is \_\_\_\_\_

6. The child has resided with Petitioner(s) for the following length of time \_\_\_\_\_

7. Information concerning the Petitioner(s), the adopting parent(s), is as follows:

a) Adopting Father:

1) Full name \_\_\_\_\_

2) Residence \_\_\_\_\_

3) Marital status \_\_\_\_\_

4) Age \_\_\_\_\_

5) Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

6) Religious affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

7) Racial background \_\_\_\_\_

8) Relationship to adoptee by blood or marriage, if any \_\_\_\_\_

9) Daytime telephone no. \_\_\_\_\_

b) Adopting Mother:

1) Full name \_\_\_\_\_

2) Residence \_\_\_\_\_

3) Marital status \_\_\_\_\_

4) Age \_\_\_\_\_

5) Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

6) Religious affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

7) Racial background \_\_\_\_\_

8) Relationship to adoptee by blood or marriage, if any \_\_\_\_\_

9) Daytime telephone no. \_\_\_\_\_

8. The following reports, as applicable, have been completed as of the dates set forth below. A true and correct copy of each of these reports is attached as an exhibit to this Petition.

a) Report of Intermediary described in 23 Pa. C.S. § 2533 \_\_\_\_\_

b) Home Study and/or Preplacement Reports described in 23 Pa. C.S. § 2530 \_\_\_\_\_

c) Investigation Reports described in 23 Pa. C.S. § 2535 \_\_\_\_\_

d) Postplacement Reports, if any \_\_\_\_\_

9. Information concerning the intermediary agency, if any, is as follows:

Name of agency \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone no. \_\_\_\_\_

County where office is located \_\_\_\_\_

10. If there is no report of an intermediary, the following information is being provided by the Petitioner(s) as to the adoptee child:

- a) Sex \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Racial background \_\_\_\_\_
- c) Age \_\_\_\_\_
- d) Birth date \_\_\_\_\_
- e) Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_
- f) Places of residence since birth \_\_\_\_\_

g) Religious affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

h) A full statement of the value of all property owned or possessed by the child, if any

i) State whether medical history information was obtained, and if not, explain why not

11. If there is no report of an intermediary, and the adoptee child is under 18 years of age, provide the following information as to the birth mother, if known:

a) Name \_\_\_\_\_

b) Residence or last known address \_\_\_\_\_

c) Racial background \_\_\_\_\_

d) Age \_\_\_\_\_

e) Marital status as of the time of the birth of child \_\_\_\_\_

f) Marital status during one year prior to birth of child \_\_\_\_\_

g) Religious affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

h) Birth mother's parental rights were terminated by decree of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_

12. If there is no report of an intermediary, and the adoptee child is under 18 years of age, provide the following information as to the birth father, if known:

a) Name \_\_\_\_\_

b) Residence or last known address \_\_\_\_\_

c) Racial background \_\_\_\_\_

d) Age \_\_\_\_\_

e) Marital status as of the time of the birth of child \_\_\_\_\_

f) Marital status during one year prior to birth of child \_\_\_\_\_

g) Religious affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

h) Birth father's parental rights were terminated by decree of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_

13. If there is no report of an intermediary, attach a copy of the birth certificate. If no birth certificate or other birth identification issued by the country of birth can be obtained, a statement of the reason and a detailed explanation of the efforts made to obtain the certificate are required and attached as an exhibit to this Petition.

14. If there is no report of an intermediary, attach copies of any foreign decrees and/or documents concerning this adoption, including any decree terminating the parental rights of birth mother and/or birth father, if needed, with an English translation for those decrees and/or documents not in English, certified by a translator to be true and correct translations of the foreign decrees and/or documents.

15. If there is no report of an intermediary, attach all consents required by Section 2711 of the Adoption Code, 23 Pa. C.S. § 2711. If consents are not required, explain:

16. Attach Pennsylvania Department of Health, Division of Vital Records Form No. HD01273F, Certificate of Adoption of a Foreign-Born Child with Parts 1 and 2 (and Part 3, if applicable) completed.

17. Attach Pennsylvania Department of Health, Division of Vital Records Form No. HD01275F, Statement of Citizenship and Residency.

18. Attach U.S. Government Form N-560, Certificate of Citizenship, and/or a copy of the child's United States passport, if either or both documents are available.

19. It is the desire of the Petitioner(s) that the relationship of parent and child be established between the Petitioner(s) and the adoptee child.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner(s) pray your Honorable Court to enter a Final Decree that the child proposed to be adopted shall have all the rights of a child and heir of Petitioner(s) and Petitioner(s) shall be subject to the duties as parents of such child, and that the child's name shall henceforth be

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DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Adopting Parent<sup>1</sup>

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Adopting Parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(If represented, counsel's name, address, and telephone number)

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<sup>1</sup> When there are two adopting parents, both must sign.

**VERIFICATION TO PETITION FOR ADOPTION OF A FOREIGN BORN CHILD**

I/We, \_\_\_\_\_, verify that I/we are the Petitioner(s) named in the foregoing Petition and that the facts set forth therein are true and correct to the best of my/our knowledge, information and belief. I/We further verify that all documents attached to this Petition are true and correct copies of the originals. I/We understand that false statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Adopting Parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Adopting Parent

## Where to Find Foreign Adoption Forms

Forms listed below are available online at <https://www.montcopa.org/206/Orphans-Court-Adoption-Information>

- Pennsylvania Department of Health, Division of Vital Records Form No. HD01273F, Certificate of Adoption of a Foreign-Born Child
- Pennsylvania Department of Health Division of Vital Records Form No. HD01275F, Statement of Citizenship and Residency

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF  
\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION**

**(FAMILY COURT DIVISION in Philadelphia County)**

**IN RE: ADOPTION OF \_\_\_\_\_**  
(initials only)

**ADOPTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**PRELIMINARY DECREE**

AND NOW, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_,  
upon consideration of the within Petition and on the motion of \_\_\_\_\_,  
Esquire, attorney for Petitioner(s) or \_\_\_\_\_, Pro Se, a hearing  
thereon is fixed for \_\_\_\_\_ in  
\_\_\_\_\_ before the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm.

Notice shall be given to the following persons and or entities having any legal  
and/or physical rights to the child:

1. NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RELATIONSHIP \_\_\_\_\_
2. NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RELATIONSHIP \_\_\_\_\_
3. NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RELATIONSHIP \_\_\_\_\_

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**  
**ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION**

**(FAMILY COURT DIVISION in Philadelphia County)**

**IN RE: ADOPTION OF** \_\_\_\_\_  
(initials only)

**ADOPTION NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

**FINAL DECREE**

AND NOW, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, upon consideration of the within Petition and after the hearing thereon, the Court having made an investigation to verify the statements of the Petition and other facts to give the Court full knowledge as to the desirability of the proposed adoption; and the Court, being satisfied, finds that the statements made in the Petition are true, that the needs and welfare of the child proposed to be adopted will be promoted by this adoption, and that all requirements of the Adoption Act have been met, it is hereby ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that this child,

\_\_\_\_\_ is hereby adopted,  
(Name of child as written on Foreign Decree)

shall be known as \_\_\_\_\_ and shall  
(Child's name from this time forward)

have all the rights of a child and heir of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Adopting Parent(s))

\_\_\_\_\_, and shall be subject to the duties of a child to said adopting parent(s).