

**FOREIGN ADOPTION PA.O.C. Rule 15.9**

**File No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

- I. Preliminary Decree (form attached)
- II. Final Decree (form attached)
- III. Petition (form attached)
- IV. Verification signed by petitioner(s) (form attached)
- V. Submit with Petition:
  - a. Consents
    - i. Adoptee if over 12 years old.
    - ii. Adopting parent's spouse (if not co-petitioner)
  - b. Certification of Fees and Costs
  - c. Copy of U.S. Visa
  - d. Pennsylvania Dept. of Health, Division of Vital Records, form HD01273F, **Certificate of Adoption of a Foreign Born Child** (Parts I and II and III if applicable) (see [www.buckscounty.org](http://www.buckscounty.org), Orphans' Court, Forms)
  - e. Pennsylvania Dept. of Health **Statement of Citizenship and Residency**, form HD01275F (see [www.buckscounty.org](http://www.buckscounty.org), Orphans' Court, Forms)
  - f. Optional: U.S. Government Form N-560 and/or copy of child's U.S. Passport with **Request for Birth Certificate**, form H105.102 (with check to Vital Records for \$10 per copy of birth certificate ordered)
  - g. Report of Intention to Adopt
  - h. Home Study
  - i. Intermediary Report with Verification (forms attached) and Notice of Filing
  - j. Foreign Documents re: termination of parental rights (with translation and verification of translation – form of verification attached)
  - k. Birth Certificate (family register) (with translation and verification of translation – form of verification attached)
  - l. Post-Placement Report(s)
  - m. Consent of agency having custody (if applicable)
  - n. Criminal Record Check (for all members of the household 14 years old or over)
  - o. Child Abuse Search (for all members of the household 14 years old or over)
  - p. FBI Based Fingerprint Check (for all adults in household)

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

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

BY THE COURT:

\_\_\_\_\_ J.

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

**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).

BY THE COURT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
J.

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

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 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name(s) of Adopting Parent(s))

under 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

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

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

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

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

**REPORT OF THE INTERMEDIARY  
IN THE ADOPTION OF A FOREIGN BORN CHILD**

The report of the agency, \_\_\_\_\_, as  
intermediary, under 23 Pa. C.S. § 2533, states as follows:

1. Intermediary's address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Intermediary's telephone no. \_\_\_\_\_  
County where office is located: \_\_\_\_\_

2. The facts as to the adoptee child are:
- a) Name \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) Sex \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) Racial background \_\_\_\_\_
  - d) Age \_\_\_\_\_
  - e) Birth date \_\_\_\_\_
  - f) Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_
  - g) Religious affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

3. Date of the placement of the child with the Petitioner(s), adopting parent(s), \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. If known, the facts as to the birth mother are:

- a) Name \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Residence or last known address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c) Racial background \_\_\_\_\_
- d) Age \_\_\_\_\_
- e) Marital status as of the time of the birth of the child \_\_\_\_\_
- f) Marital status during one year prior to birth of the child \_\_\_\_\_
- g) Religious affiliation \_\_\_\_\_
- h) Birth mother's parental rights were terminated by decree of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_

5. If known, the facts as to the birth father are:

- a) Name \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Residence or last known address \_\_\_\_\_
- c) Racial background \_\_\_\_\_
- d) Age \_\_\_\_\_
- e) Marital status as of the time of the birth of the child \_\_\_\_\_
- f) Marital status during one year prior to birth of the child \_\_\_\_\_
- g) Religious affiliation \_\_\_\_\_
- h) Birth father's parental rights were terminated by decree of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_

6. All consents required by 23 Pa. C.S. § 2711 are attached to this Report as exhibits or are not required for the following reasons, provide explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. a) A true and correct copy of the birth certificate or a registration of the birth by the country of birth is attached to this Report as an exhibit. 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 attached as exhibits to this Report.

b) 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, 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 decrees and/or documents.

8. Attach a verified list of itemized fees and/or expenses paid or to be paid to or received by the intermediary and/or any other person or persons to the knowledge of the intermediary by reason of the adoption placement.

9. A full description and statement of the value of all property owned or possessed by the child, if any, is as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. No provision of any act regulating the interstate placement of children has been violated with respect to the placement of the child.

11. The child's medical history information was obtained and is available, except as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (Type name of signor, title, and name of agency)

**VERIFICATION TO REPORT OF INTERMEDIARY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, verify that I am \_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)

of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Agency)

and I am authorized to take this verification on its behalf, and that the facts set forth in the foregoing Report are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I further verify that all documents attached to this Report are true and correct copies of the originals. I 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

**VERIFICATION OF TRANSLATOR**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, verify that I am \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(occupation and employer)

and that all translations of the foreign documents which are attached to this  
Petition are true and correct English translations of the originals. I 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