



**GENERAL CONSENT TO TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND ADOPTION
(FOR USE IN CASES FILED PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 211.444 AND 453.030, RSMO)**

IN THE _____ DIVISION
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY/COUNTY OF _____
STATE OF MISSOURI

In re the Matter of _____)
_____) Case No _____
("CHILD")

GENERAL CONSENT TO TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND ADOPTION

My name is _____
(FULL LEGAL NAME)

I reside at _____
(ADDRESS)

I am a (male female) person and my date of birth is _____. I acknowledge the following statements are completed by me and each statement is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge:

1. The Child, _____ was born on _____
(FULL LEGAL NAME)
in _____
(CITY/COUNTY/STATE)

2. My relationship to the Child is:

- (A) I am the (mother father) of the Child. I OR
- (B) I have been named as a possible birth father for the Child. I deny I am the birth father of the Child; however, in order to facilitate the location of a stable and secure home for the Child, I am willing to execute this Consent and do so with the full understanding that its terms will apply to me if it turns out I am in fact the birth father of the Child. **I understand if I deny paternity, but consent to adoption, I waive any future interest in the child.**

3. Because I believe it is in the best interest of the Child and his or her future welfare, **I voluntarily and of my own free will forever consent to the termination of parental rights and obligations and consent to the lawful adoption of the child.**

I UNDERSTAND AND INTEND THAT THIS CONSENT TO TERMINATION OF MY PARENTAL RIGHTS AND CONSENT TO ADOPTION IS FINAL AND IRREVOCABLE ONCE IT IS EXECUTED BY ME UNLESS, PRIOR TO A FINAL DECREE OF ADOPTION, I ALLEGE AND PROVE BY CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE THIS CONSENT WAS NOT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY GIVEN.

4. I understand as the parent of the Child, I may have the primary right to custody of the Child if I so choose, even if I am a minor, and by signing this Consent I am giving up any such right along with all my other parental rights and obligations.

5. I have completed _____ years of education.

6. I read and understand the English language; or

I understand English and this Consent form was read to me by:
_____; or
(FULL LEGAL NAME) (TITLE)

this Consent form was read to me in my native language of _____
by _____
(NAME OF INTERPRETER)

7. Check and complete all that apply:

- At the time of the Child's birth, I was married to _____
(FULL LEGAL NAME)
- I was married to _____ within the last 300 days prior to the child's birth.
(FULL LEGAL NAME)
- I am not married.
- My marriage to _____ was legally dissolved on _____.
(FULL LEGAL NAME) (DATE)

8. Indian Child Welfare Act:

- As far as I know, neither I, nor any member of my family, including the Child, is a member of or eligible for membership in a federally recognized American Indian Tribe or Alaskan Native Village.

OR

- Either I, or a member of my family, including the Child, is a member of or eligible for membership in a federally recognized American Indian Tribe or Alaskan Native Village.

9. I understand I have the right to be represented by my own attorney. I understand the court may appoint an attorney to represent me if I request counsel, and if hiring my own attorney would cause a financial hardship. I also understand I may review this document and seek the advice of an attorney before signing this Consent.

- I have talked to and am represented by _____ regarding this Consent.
(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

OR

- I HEREBY WAIVE MY RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY.

10. The Child is currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court/family court in _____ County,
_____, in case number _____.
(STATE)

11. By completing and signing this Consent, I certify to the Court that I am of sound mind and:

- i. Hereby submit to the jurisdiction of the Court of the State of Missouri.
- ii. Understand this Consent will be filed with the juvenile court/family court in _____ County, Missouri and any other court in which proceedings concerning the Child may be pending.
- iii. Have had enough time to carefully consider whether or not consent to termination of parental rights and adoption is in my own best interest and the best interest of the Child.
- iv. Have given careful thought to my decision to proceed with this Consent.
- v. Am not under the influence of any drug, medication, or other substance which might affect my reasoning or judgment.
- vi. Have signed this Consent to termination of parental rights and adoption of my own free will and without any duress or undue influence from anyone.
- vii. Have not been given any money or gifts, and no one has promised to provide me any money or gifts in exchange for my consent other than payment of expenses allowed by law.

12. I choose to:

- waive service of summons and a copy of any petition seeking the termination of my parental rights and/or adoption of the child that may be filed in any court of competent jurisdiction. I hereby waive my right to appear in any such proceedings and consent to a hearing thereof, at any time, without further notice to me;

OR

- reserve the right to receive service of summons and a copy of any petition seeking the termination of my parental rights and/or adoption of the child as may hereafter be filed in any court of competent jurisdiction.

13. I understand the importance of identifying all possible fathers of the child and may provide the names of all such persons:
_____.

14. I am the birth mother, and I have not misrepresented to any man who could be the father of this child that:

- _____ i. I was not pregnant;
- _____ ii. the pregnancy was terminated;
- _____ iii. the child has died; or
- _____ iv. the child is not his.

I CERTIFY BY MY SIGNATURE BELOW THAT I HAVE READ, CONSIDERED, AND UNDERSTAND ALL THE ABOVE STATEMENTS.

I, _____, hereby acknowledge that the statements provided above.
(FULL LEGAL NAME)
are true, complete and correct.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT	DATE	TIME
SIGNATURE OF PARENT'S ATTORNEY OR INTERMEDIARY	DATE	TIME
SIGNATURE OF PARENT'S GUARDIAN AD LITEM (IF REQUIRED BY § 453.030.9 RSMO OR OTHER APPLICABLE LAW)	DATE	TIME

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OR WITNESSES TO PARENT'S CONSENT
THIS CONSENT MUST BE:**

A) EXECUTED IN FRONT OF A JUDGE, OR B) ACKNOWLEDGED BEFORE A NOTARY PUBLIC OR TWO ADULT WITNESSES

JUDGE

On this _____ day of _____, in the year _____, before me personally
(MONTH)
appeared _____ known to me to be the person who executed this
(FULL LEGAL NAME OF PARENT)

Consent to Termination of Parental Rights and Adoption and acknowledged to me that she/he executed the same for the purposes herein stated, and I have advised the consenting parent of the consequences of the consent.

Judge

NOTARY

STATE OF MISSOURI)
)
COUNTY OF _____)

On this _____ day of _____, in the year _____, before me personally
(MONTH)
appeared _____ known to me to be the person who executed this
(FULL LEGAL NAME OF PARENT)

Consent to Termination of Parental Rights and Adoption and acknowledged to me that she/he executed the same for the purposes herein stated.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: _____

WITNESSES

THE UNDERSIGNED WITNESSES CERTIFY BY THEIR SIGNATURES THAT _____
(FULL LEGAL NAME OF PARENT)
SIGNED THE CONSENT AND THE CONSENT WAS KNOWINGLY AND FREELY GIVEN. WE FURTHER CERTIFY WE ARE NOT THE
PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENTS OF THE ABOVE NAMED CHILD.

PRINTED NAME AND DATE OF BIRTH OF WITNESS ONE	DATE	TIME
SIGNATURE OF WITNESS ONE	FULL ADDRESS OF WITNESS ONE	
PRINTED NAME AND DATE OF BIRTH OF WITNESS TWO	DATE	TIME
SIGNATURE OF WITNESS TWO	FULL ADDRESS OF WITNESS TWO	

GENERAL CONSENT TO TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND CONSENT TO ADOPTION, FORM INSTRUCTIONS

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this form is to provide written consent when a parent is consenting to termination of parental rights and allowing the child to be placed for adoption. The form must be fully completed by the parent in the presence of and signed by all appropriate persons.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION:

Parents shall never be required to sign an undated or incomplete consent form.

Those sections of the form which do not ask for written information should be read by the parent, and the attorney or intermediary assisting the parent shall ask questions of the parent to ensure their understanding and have the parent initial where indicated.

The attorney or intermediary assisting the parent shall document that the information was read by or read to the parent and that the birth parent was asked whether they understood the information provided to them and have parent initial where indicated.

Complete the indicated city/county information and child's name as well as the name, date of birth, age, sex and address of the parent executing the consent.

Complete Number 1 by entering the child's birth date and place of birth, and have parent initial.

Complete Number 2 (A) or (B) by indicating whether the parent is the mother, father, or possible birth father of the child, and have the parent initial.

Read and review Number 3 with the parent, and the language in the section directly below Number 3, ensuring that they understand all that has been read, and have the parent initial.

Review Number 4 with the parent, ensuring that the parent understands, and have the parent initial.

Complete Number 5 with the parent by obtaining the number of years they attended education.

Complete Number 6 by choosing one or more of the listed options and have the parent initial. If choosing the last option, fill in the native language and name of interpreter.

Complete Number 7 with the parent by choosing one of the four options, completing the appropriate blanks, and have the parent initial the appropriate box.

Complete Number 8 by having the parent initial the appropriate box pertaining to the Indian Child Welfare Act. If the parent indicates he or she is a member of an American Indian Tribe or Native Village, the child must be at least 10 days old and consent must be executed in the presence of judge. If the parent indicates he or she is not a member of an American Indian Tribe or Native Village, the child must be at least 48 hours old.

Complete Number 9 by reading and reviewing the two options, and indicate whether the parent has legal representation OR has waived that right to an attorney, then have the parent initial the appropriate box. Write in the name of the attorney, if the parent is represented.

Complete Number 10 by reading and filling in the name of the county, state and case number. Review and have the parent initial it.

Review Number 11, fill in the County name, ensuring the parent understands all seven statements and have the parent initial the box.

Read and review Number 12, allowing the parent to choose from one of the two options.

Read and review Number 13, adding names to any possible fathers of the child if applicable, and have the parent initial.

Review Number 14, ensuring the parent understands all four statements, and have the parent initial the box.

Fill in the parent's full legal name. Obtain the parent's signature, certifying that they have read, considered and understood all the above statements. Also, obtain the signature of the parent's attorney, and if applicable, the signature of the parent's guardian ad litem.

After the parent executes the form, have a notary public complete the Acknowledgment section and certification;

OR

Have two adult witnesses complete the witness section and provide their full address and signatures;

OR

If the consent is executed before a judge, have the judge sign to verify the identity of the consenting parent and to verify that he or she has advised the consenting parent of the consequences of the consent.

NUMBER OF COPIES, DISTRIBUTION AND RETENTION:

The completed, signed and notarized or witnessed consent shall be provided to the court to become part of the judicial record according to local protocol. A copy of the notarized or witnessed consent shall also be provided to the parent. Copies may be made for the attorney/intermediary, guardian ad litem, juvenile officer, and Children's Division worker.

AUTHORITY: Sections 211.444 and 453.030, RSMo