

## INFORMATION SHEET

for

### DECLARATION OF PATERNITY

Pursuant to R.C. §2105.25, if an adult child's birth certificate does not list a father, the man alleging to be the father of an adult child who is twenty-three years old or older, the adult child's mother, and the adult child may appear together and file a Joint Declaration in the probate court in the county in Ohio where the father resides. If the father is not a resident of Ohio, the Joint Declaration may be filed in any Ohio county if the child was born in Ohio. The Joint Declaration must be made freely and voluntarily by all parties.

A Joint Declaration form and a proposed Order Affirming Joint Declaration may be obtained from the Clerk's Office or from the court's web site ([www.mcoho.org/probate](http://www.mcoho.org/probate)) under Miscellaneous Forms.

1. A certified copy of the adult child's birth certificate must be submitted with the Joint Declaration.
2. Genetic testing results showing the man to be the adult child's father must be submitted with the Joint Declaration.
3. All persons must present current valid picture identifications when they appear before the probate court.

If the adult child's mother is deceased or has been determined to be incompetent, only the adult child and the man alleging to be the adult child's father must appear before the Court with the Joint Declaration. Please attach appropriate documentation.

A monetary deposit is required to be submitted with the Joint Declaration. This Court accepts only money orders, cashier's checks or cash. Please confirm the costs with Clerk's Office.

If the probate court approves the Joint Declaration, you will need to send a certified copy of the court's order and fee (contact the Bureau to verify the fee) to request a new birth certificate to: Bureau of Vital Statistics, Ohio Department of Health, 246 N. High Street. P.O. Box 15098. Columbus, Ohio 43215-0098 (614) 466-2531 or 2532

**THIS INFORMATION SHEET IS INTENDED MERELY AS A GUIDE AND SHOULD NOT BE RELIED UPON AS A COMPLETE LIST OF ALL STEPS THAT MAY BE REQUIRED UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES.**