

**BIRTH PARENT & BIRTH INFORMATION SEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE**

**CONSENT FORM FOR GUARDIAN AD LITEM**

***PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY***

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PAST LEGAL NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS [only if different]: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER AT BIRTH:    M                    F

PLACE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ RACE: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ MESSAGES OK?        Y                    N

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTIVE PARENTS NAMES AND ADDRESSES (or name and date of death if deceased):

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

I understand that any information I provide within this questionnaire is completely voluntary and not required in order to have the assistance of the Guardian Ad Litem, but that any information I provide may be of assistance to the search for my birth parents and birth information.

I consent to allowing Beth L. Aarons, Esq., the Guardian Ad Litem assisting with my search for my birth parents and birth information, to obtain copies of any information relevant to the search, and to use her discretion in disclosing some or all information provided with and within the Birth Parent & Birth Information Search Questionnaire as may be necessary or desirable in order to further my goals regarding this search.

SIGNATURE:

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

PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**BIRTH PARENT & BIRTH INFORMATION SEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE**

Completion of this Questionnaire is strictly voluntary. If you choose to complete it, however, please respond as accurately as possible.

**BIRTH HISTORY**

Please provide copies of any documentation you have relating to your birth. If you have no official documentation but do have anecdotal stories relating to your birth, please use the space provided and/or attach a separate sheet with a description of the information you do have.

Please circle your selection

Was this an open or closed adoption?	OPEN	CLOSED	NOT SURE
Did your adoptive parents know your birth parents?	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Were you part of a surrogacy birth?	YES	NO	NOT SURE
If YES, were your adoptive parents DNA donors?	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Are you aware of any full or half siblings?	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Were you born as a single or multiple birth?	SINGLE	MULTIPLE	NOT SURE
If born in a multiple birth, please describe:	TWINS	TRIPLETS	#_____

Please add any other information you may have regarding your birth history:

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**MEDICAL HISTORY**

Please note that you are not under any obligation to complete this form or provide personal medical information to the GAL. However, if you do feel comfortable providing any of the following information, it is possible that it may assist in locating or confirming the identity of your birth parents. Please add sheets as needed.

Eye color at birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Hair color at birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Length at birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Weight at birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any of the following which applied at birth or childhood:

Birth marks:

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Physical impairments:

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Allergies:

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Learning Disabilities:

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Medical conditions:

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**SEARCH HISTORY**

What are your primary reasons for searching for your birth parents and birth information?

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What have you already done as part of your search?

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Are your adoptive parents aware you are searching?    YES                      NO                      NOT SURE

Are your adoptive parents supportive of your search?    YES                      NO                      NOT SURE

Have you found any biological relatives to date?    YES                      NO

    If YES, please describe how you are related: \_\_\_\_\_

    If YES, do they have info re: your birth parents?    YES                      NO                      NOT SURE

    If YES, please describe the info: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you participated in any adoptee DNA programs?    YES                      NO

    If YES, which one(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Are you registered on any adoptee search sites?    YES                      NO

    If YES, which one(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Do you belong to any adult adoptee groups?    YES                      NO

    If YES, which one(s): \_\_\_\_\_

## **OBTAINING ANSWERS**

This current search may or may not yield any results or answers for you. Some records may not be available or reliable. Sometimes no information or answers are forthcoming. Sometimes birth family members are located but do not want contact, or have passed away, or have or had challenging life situations you have not contemplated.

Please consider that it may be helpful to have a network of friends and professionals to help support you through this process and beyond, in order to assist you in handling whatever the results of this current search may be.

If you are unable to obtain answers with this search, please realize that as more adoptee networks, records, DNA databases, and other systems are put in place in the future, a future search may yield more answers for you.

## **LETTER TO BIRTH PARENTS**

If you wish, you may write a letter to your birth parents and submit a draft to the GAL for review. The GAL may make recommendations as to appropriateness of content for first contact. Sometimes birth parents will accept a letter even if they do not wish to meet in person. It is possible there may be opportunities for the GAL to deliver the letter, or at least file it with an appropriate agency or court in the event your birth parents search for you. Please note, the GAL will not deliver letters containing inappropriate or illegal content.

Here are some suggestions and considerations as you draft your letter:

- Consider what you hope to realistically achieve with the letter, and then use these goals as your guide for what content to include now, and what content might be better to save for future communications.
- You may have many years' worth of questions and emotions; you may not realize that your birth parents may be in the same position.
- Consider omitting or limiting focus on the "negatives"; while your history of emotions and experiences are completely yours and legitimate, there may be more appropriate venues for exploring these than in your initial contact letter.
- If one of your goals is to meet your birth parents and/or birth family in person, you can include this desire in your letter. However, do not to invite contact lightly if upon reflection you do not believe you would be able to follow through with it.
- You may type or handwrite your letter. If you do choose to handwrite your letter, please be sure to write legibly. If your birth parents are not located, there may be multiple places to file your letter if they search for you; if this occurs you may give the GAL more than one copy.
- You may wish to include a few pictures of yourself; sometimes adoptees might include images from different ages. These could be printed on paper or actual photographs.

I have read **OBTAINING ANSWERS** and **LETTER TO BIRTH PARENTS**: Initialed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_