IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL

CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_DR\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-05A

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

Adoptee,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/

**CASE CHECKLIST**

**Petition for Adoption of Minor Child by Stepparent or Relative**

**Under Chapter 63**

The Checklist lists the minimum requirements and may not be all-inclusive for every case. If you have any questions or concerns about your case, you should consult an attorney. The Checklist and instructions provided herein should not be substituted for legal advice from an attorney.

Some forms can be found online at**:** <https://www.flcourts.gov/>

All completed forms must be returned to the Seminole Clerk of the Court located at 101 Eslinger Way Sanford, FL 32771 or electronically filed through the Florida State e-Filing Portal ([www.myflcourtaccess.com](http://www.myflcourtaccess.com)).

After completing and filing this checklist, please notify the Self Represented Litigant Coordinator that your file is ready for review by submitting a Request for Hearing online at: <https://fl18.org/req4hrg>

The judge assigned to your case may request to see copies of the following at the final hearing: marriage license of the adoptive parents; copies of driver’s licenses of the adoptive parents and adult adoptee; and copies of social security cards of the adoptive parents and adult adoptee.

**Please bring these items with you.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Pleadings/Documents/Forms Required | Date of Filing |
| Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases  12.928 [[PDF Download of 12.928](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685879/7661787)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685879/7661787)[Word Download of 12.928](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685879/7661788) |  |
| Petition for Adoption of Minor Child  by a Relative  Joint Petition for Adoption by Stepparent  12.981(b)(1) [[PDF Download of 12.981(b)(1)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685988/7662750)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685988/7662750)[Word Download of 12.981(b)(1)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685988/7662751) |  |
| Notice of Related Cases  12.900(h) [[PDF Download of 12.900(h)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685805/7661125)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685805/7661125)[Word Download of 12.900(h)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685805/7661126) |  |
| Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) Affidavit  12.902(d) [[PDF Download of 12.902(d)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685814/7661204)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685814/7661204)[Word Download of 12.902(d)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685814/7661205) |  |
| Indian Child Welfare Act Affidavit  12.981(a)(5) [[PDF Download of 12.981(a)(5)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685985/7662729)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685985/7662729)[Word Download of 12.981(a)(5)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685985/7662730) |  |
| Certified Copy of Birth Certificate of Minor Child |  |
| Consent of Minor Child  (if 12 years of age or older)  12.981(a)(2) [[PDF Download of 12.981(a)(2)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685982/7662708)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685982/7662708)[Word Download of 12.981(a)(2)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685982/7662709) |  |
| Consent and Waiver Executed by Birth Parent(s)\*\*  12.981(a)(1) [[PDF Download of 12.981(a)(1)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685981/7662701)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685981/7662701)[Word Download of 12.981(a)(1)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685981/7662702) |  |
| Florida Putative Father Registry Search Certificate from Office of Vital Statistics of Department of Health  (in all cases where birth father’s parental rights  are being terminated as result of adoption)  Motion 12.981(a)(6) [[PDF Download of 12.981(a)(6)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685986/7662736)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685986/7662736)[Word Download of 12.981(a)(6)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685986/7662737)  Order 12.981 (a)(7) [[PDF Download of 12.981(a)(7)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685987/7662743)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685987/7662743)[Word Download of 12.981(a)(7)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685987/7662744) |  |
| Proposed Final Judgment  12.981(b)(2) [[PDF Download of 12.981(b)(2)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685989/7662757)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685989/7662757)[Word Download of 12.981(b)(2)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685989/7662758) |  |
| Notice of Hearing  (written notice to minor child’s birth parent(s), or proof of service of process on minor child’s birth parent(s))  12.923 [[PDF Download of 12.923](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685873/7661721)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685873/7661721)[Word Download of 12.923](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685873/7661722) |  |
| \*\* ALTERNATIVES TO CONSENT AND WAIVER  BY BIRTH PARENT(S): |  |
| Affidavit of Nonpaternity (executed by birth father, if birth parents never married and paternity was not established by court order or valid acknowledgement)  12.981(a)(3) [[PDF Download of 12.981(a)(3)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685983/7662715)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685983/7662715)[Word Download of 12.981(a)(3)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685983/7662716) |  |
| OR |  |
| Affidavit of Diligent Search (if birth parent’s identity is known but his/her location is unknown)  12.981(a)(4) [[PDF Download of 12.981(a)(4)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685984/7662722)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685984/7662722)[Word Download of 12.981(a)(4)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685984/7662723)  and  Constructive Service Notice (if diligent search does not reveal birth parent’s location)  12.913(a)(3) [[PDF Download of 12.913(a)(3)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685852/7661526)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685852/7661526)[Word Download of 12.913(a)(3)](https://www.flcourts.org/content/download/685852/7661527) |  |
| OR |  |
| Certified Copy of Final Judgment Terminating Parental Rights Under Chapter 39 (if birth parent’s parental rights were previously terminated) |  |
| OR |  |
| Certified Copy of Death Certificate  (if birth parent(s) deceased) |  |
| OR |  |
| Waiver of Consent by the Court (if one of the conditions enumerated in section 63.064 is satisfied) |  |