

## **STEPPARENT ADOPTION (ADULT)**

This checklist is designed to help persons seeking to represent themselves in court without the assistance of an attorney. It is meant to serve as a guide only. It is not guaranteed that either the instructions or the forms will achieve the result desired by the parties. It is not ensured that any individual judge accept each form drafted. Any person using these instructions and forms does so at their own risk.

Please note, the Family Court Case Management Self-Help Office provides procedural information and cannot give legal advice. All forms listed below can be found at [www.flcourts.gov](http://www.flcourts.gov) under Self Help, Family Law Forms, unless otherwise noted.

- **Petition for Adoption of Adult by Stepparent** - Form 12.981(c)(1) Please read all directions and complete the petition *entirely*.
  - Petitioner or the adoptee MUST be a resident of Marion County
  - Petition must be signed and notarized by petitioner(s)
- **Designation of Current Mailing and E-Mail Address** Form 12.915
- **Cover Sheet for Family Court Cases** Form 12.928
- **Notice of Related Cases** Form 12.900 (h)
- **Stepparent Adoption: Consent of Adoptee** Form 12.981(a)(2)
  - Consent must be witnessed by two persons and notarized by a third person who is a notary §63.082 (4)(d), Fla.Stat.
- **Stepparent Adoption: Consent of Adult Adoptee's Spouse** Form 12.981(c)(2) – Required if the adult adoptee is married.
  - Consent must be witnessed by two persons and notarized by a third person who is a notary §63.082 (4)(d), Fla.Stat.

### **Service of Process on Biological Parents**

The biological parents must either receive written Notice of the Final Hearing on Adoption or Proof of Service of Process showing Notice has been served (Ref: Florida Statute 63.062 (8)(b))

- **Motion to Set Final Hearing Form** available at [www.marioncountyclerk.org](http://www.marioncountyclerk.org)

**PLEASE DO NOT FILE THIS MOTION UNTIL ALL THE ABOVE ITEMS HAVE BEEN FILED**