# Name and Gender Marker Change Legal Fees of Arizona

- Tucson Superior Court: 110 W. Congress St.
  - Name Change with Certified Copy: \$292 (Pima County)
  - Seal a Court File: \$30
  - Extra Certified Copies: \$30.50
- Tucson Vital Records: 3950 S. Country Club Rd. #100
  - o Birth Certificate Change: \$30
  - Certified Birth Certificate Copy: \$20
- Tucson MVD: 3565 S. Broadmont Dr.
  - o AZ Travel ID: \$25
  - o AZ Driver's License: \$25
  - o AZ State ID: \$12
- Passport Book: \$130

# Tips for Navigating the Name and Gender Marker Change Process in Arizona

# **Pima County Superior Court Clerks:**

Remember, it is important to wait to sign your petition until you are standing in front of the clerk. This is because clerks in Pima Country have been telling people they need their petitions notarized. If you feel comfortable, you can tell the clerk that the law does not require notarization and signing your petition in front of them confirms your identity. Clerks often are uninformed as to how the court is handling certain procedures, as their office is considered separate than

the court. Our recommendation is to remain confident and consistent, providing that your order is aligned with the standards of the Superior Court and you'd like to address any issues with your petition with the judge.

#### **Pima County Superior Court Judges:**

If a judge deadnames or misgenders you, you can say "Your honor, would you please call me by [your name] and use [your pronouns]?" If you are petitioning for your child's name change, it's encouraged to verbally request the judge to seal their Name Change Court File so it is not an open record accessible to the public: "Your honor, would you please seal my child's records?"

#### **Doctor's Letter**

If you're looking to change your gender marker, it's recommended to start with this step. You will need a doctor who will sign a letter, on their office letterhead, saying two things: 1) that you are "deeply committed" to changing your gender, and 2) you are receiving "appropriate treatment" (ex: HRT). It's highly recommended that the doctor you are currently seeing should be the one to write this letter, as they would have the longest record of your experience. We recognize that this language is transphobic and may be triggering, however, this is currently the legal language that is required.

This letter must come from a licensed physician; a letter from a nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, psychologist, licensed social worker or other therapist will not suffice.

#### Name Change Petition

The current filing fee for a Name Change Petition is \$292. If you are not able to pay the fee, you may file a request for a full waiver or deferral (i.e. payment plan of the filing fee). Make sure to file your Fee Waiver-Deferral Request form and a blank Order with the Clerk's Office before filing your name change

petition. Walk-in hearings happen for name changes on Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

- 1. From our website www.fluxxproductions.org, you can download the name change petition and print three copies Do Not Sign them yet. There is an Adult and a Minor form, which is paired with a Parent's Consent form.
- Take all three copies to the Pima County Superior Court at 110 West Congress in Downtown Tucson. Sign your forms in front of the clerk.
- 3. You will also need a copy of the civil cover sheet, which can be found on the Superior Court website. You do not need to fill out anything on this sheet outside of checking the relevant box on page two: Change of Name and/or Amending Birth Certificate.

https://www.sc.pima.gov/media/ukgdcsie/civilcoversheet.pdf

#### **Driver's License/State ID**

It is recommended that you wait a few days before going to the DMV.

1) Tell the clerk you wish to change your name and/or gender marker on your license or ID. They will give you a number and a form to complete. 2) When your number is called, hand the clerk the completed form, a certified copy of your name change order, the original doctor's letter and your current driver's license/ID.

The DMV will send you a new license/ID card in a few weeks in the mail.

#### **Birth Certificate Amendment**

The process of amending a birth certificate is run by each individual state, depending on where you were born. If you were not born in Arizona, you will need to look up the process for your individual state. In Arizona, the statute regarding birth certificates was successfully litigated, ruling the statutory requirement of sex-change surgery to amend a birth certificate as unconstitutional. While the litigation continues as to what IS constitutional, Vital Records will amend birth certificate gender markers with a court order.

If this is something you're interested in, we can include it in your name change petition or we can create a separate petition for the birth certificate amendment. This process isn't the same as the name change with the Superior Court and takes a bit longer, as it is handled like a normal civil matter and gets assigned to a civil court judge rather than the open hearings for name change. Once you have your court order, you can email vital records, stating you have a court order for amending your birth certificate and they'll amend it from there.

## **Social Security**

\*\*\*\*At this time, our team does not recommend you apply to amend your social security. This is due to the recent executive orders, which are presenting barriers with the federal administrative agencies. Our team and organizations across the country have provided data that the office has been consistently denied these changes on account of the EO's, with some instances of them keeping or revoking your documents following denial. If you'd wish to try anyway, this is the relevant information:

- 1. Fill out form SS-5. Where it asks for your sex, mark the marker that best suits you. Unfortunately you cannot change sex marker to X with social security yet. You also do not need a separate doctor's letter.
- 2. No walk-ins, you must schedule an appointment. 88 West 38th Street #100, when you are called, give the clerk the certified copy of your name change order, the completed SS-5 form, and your current Drivers Licence or Identification Card. An updated SS card will be sent to you via the mail in a couple of weeks.

If you have any questions, concerns or are seeking assistance with this process, please email <a href="mailto:soaznamechangeclinic@gmail.com">soaznamechangeclinic@gmail.com</a>.

### Congratulations!



