

State of New Mexico

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENT

BILL RICHARDSON
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DORIAN DODSON
CABINET SECRETARY

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DEPUTY CABINET SECRETARY

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DEPUTY CABINET SECRETARY

Dear Adult Adoptee, Birth Parent/Sibling of Adult Adoptee:

The New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department is the repository for permanent adoption records for any private or public adoption that was approved and finalized by a court in New Mexico. If you were born in New Mexico, but your adoption finalized in another state; you must contact that state for information. Procedures for access to post-decree records apply to adult adoptees, birth parents or birth siblings of an adult adoptee, and adoptive parents of a minor adoptee.

Attached are the Closed Record Inquiry and Waiver of Confidentiality forms that require having your signature notarized. These forms allow us to do the following:

- If a birth parent or birth sibling has provided us with their Waiver of Confidentiality form, we are authorized to provide you with information about them from the record. We will provide you with the written information they have authorized us to release upon receipt of your completed, signed and notarized Closed Record Inquiry form.
- If a birth parent or birth sibling inquires as to your whereabouts, we are authorized to provide them with information about you from your record; if your signed and notarized forms are on file.
- If your birth parent or birth siblings have not provided us with the signed and notarized forms, we will only be able to disclose to you non-identifying information about them, if your signed and notarized forms are on file.

Release of identifying information without authorization from birth parents or birth siblings requires a New Mexico District Court order. If this is your case, you will have to contact a certified New Mexico Confidential Adoption Intermediary for assistance. Attached is the list of Confidential Intermediaries, they can guide you to the process of locating birth relatives.

Regarding Tribal affiliation; we can provide Tribal enrollment officers with any birth data we have on file to assist them in identifying you as a tribal member, if your adoption was finalized in a New Mexico Court (not Tribal Court). You must provide us with the signed and notarized Closed Record Inquiry and Waiver of Confidentiality forms, name, address, and phone number of your tribal enrollment officer. Should we have birth parent identifying information, we will provide it to the tribal enrollment office in writing and will notify you of the outcome.

If you require additional assistance with this process, please contact the Adoption Unit staff at 505-827-8400.

Sincerely,

Protective Services
Adoption Unit