



Adoptions From The Heart®

Virginia Birthfather Rights

Virginia Adoption Law States That:

1. You, as the birthfather, may sign an entrustment agreement placing your child for adoption and may sign before or after the birth. If you are married or were married during the year before your baby is born, you are considered the legal father and are required to sign an entrustment agreement or will be required to go to court.
2. Once you sign the entrustment to place your child you can change your mind within 10 days from birth or 7 days from signing, whichever date occurs later, and notify our office in writing by the end of business on the last day.
3. If a birthfather is not available to sign the entrustment or chooses not to sign, he will be sent a certified letter to his last known address to advise him of his right to register with the Virginia Putative Father Registry to be notified of any adoption proceedings.

Other Important Information

- You cannot accept money for your child to be placed for adoption.
- You have the right to have counseling about whether or not to choose adoption. This counseling must be provided at no cost to you by an agency or social worker.
- Adoptions are legal in Virginia when done through an agency or when done privately with an attorney. Agencies, however, provide free counseling as part of their services.

In Addition...You have the right:

- To have counseling to help you with your decision.
- To have counseling even after your rights have been terminated
- To select and meet the adoptive family.
- To ask to get letters and pictures of your child after placement.