

\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY

\_\_\_\_\_ SP \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Full name of petitioning parent 1)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Full name of petitioning parent 2)

**DECREE OF ADOPTION**

**FOR THE ADOPTION OF**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Full name by which adoptee is to be known)

This cause coming on to be heard and being heard before the undersigned and the Court from all the evidence presented in this proceeding, enters the following Decree of Adoption. The Court finds by a preponderance of the evidence the following:

1. That all necessary parties in the above-entitled proceeding are properly before the Court; that notice of the filing of the Petition was served on all required persons and that the time for filing a response has expired;

2. That the above-named \_\_\_\_\_ child was born on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Sex) (Month) (Day) (Year)  
in \_\_\_\_\_;  
(State/Country)

3. That said child was placed with petitioner(s) for adoption on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or the placement requirement has been waived; and each necessary consent, relinquishment, waiver, or judicial order terminating parental rights has been obtained and filed with the Court and the time for revocation has expired.  The consent of the minor child 12 or more years old is hereby dispensed with as the Court finds it is not in the minor's best interest to require the consent;

4. That said child has been in the physical custody of the petitioner(s) for at least 90 days or this requirement has been waived by the Court for cause;

5. That a duly verified Petition for Adoption of said child was filed with this Court by the above-named petitioner(s) on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_;

6. That at least 90 days have elapsed since the filing of the Petition for Adoption or this requirement has been waived by the Court for cause;

7. That the marital status and gender of the petitioner(s) is/are: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Enter whether married, stepparent, single, and petitioners genders)

8. That any assessment required by Chapter 48 has been filed with and considered by the Court;

9. That, if applicable, the requirements of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children, G.S. 7B-3800, et. seq., have been met or have been waived pursuant to G.S. 48-2-603(b).

10. Any motion to dismiss this adoption proceeding has been denied;

11. Each petitioner is a suitable adoptive parent and the petitioner(s) seeking adoption (is a ) (are) fit person(s) to have the care and custody of said child and are financially able to provide for the child;

12. Any accounting and affidavit required under G.S. 48-2-602 has been reviewed by the Court and the Court has taken appropriate action with regard to any payment or disbursement that violates Article 10 of Chapter 48;

13. That petitioner(s) has/have received information about the adoptee and the adoptee's biological family if required by G.S. 48-3-205;

14. That there has been substantial compliance with the provisions of Chapter 48; and

15. That the child is a suitable child for adoption and that this adoption is in the best interest of the child;

**NOW THEREFORE**, it is hereby ordered, adjudged, and decreed by the Court:

(1) That from the date of the entry of this Decree herein, the said minor is declared adopted for life by the petitioner(s) and that said child shall henceforth be known by the name of:

\_\_\_\_\_ and the State Registrar of Vital Records shall make a new birth certificate for said child in accordance with the provisions of Section 48-9-107 of the General Statutes;

(2) That the Decree of Adoption effects a complete substitution of families for all legal purposes and establishes the relationship of parent and child, together with all the rights, responsibilities, and duties, between each petitioner and the individual being adopted;

(3) That from the date of this Decree of Adoption, the adoptee is entitled to inherit real and personal property by, through, and from the adoptive parents in accordance with the statutes on intestate succession and has the same legal status, including all legal rights and obligations of any kind whatsoever, as a child born the legitimate child of the adoptive parents;

(4) That the Decree of Adoption severs the relationship of parent and child between the individual adopted and that individual's  Choose an item.  Choose an item. Further, the former parents are relieved of all legal duties and obligations due from them to the adoptee, except that a former parent's duty to make past-due payments for child support is not terminated, and the former parents are divested of all rights with respect to the adoptee. Notwithstanding any other provision, neither an adoption by a stepparent nor a readoption pursuant to G.S. 48-6-102, has any effect on the relationship between the child and the parent who is or was the stepparent's spouse.

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Superior Court

**(S E A L)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
County

**NOTE:**

Four DSS-1814 forms are completed. The original is retained in the Clerk of Superior Court's office; one copy is given to adoptive parents; one copy is given to the Director of Social Services or licensed private child-placing agency; and one copy is to be forwarded, along with originals of all other documents except a copy of the Petition, filed in proceeding, within ten days or the disposition of any appeal taken pursuant to G.S. 48-2-607(b) by the Clerk of Court to the Division of Social Services, State Department of Health and Human Services.