



LAWS OF ALASKA

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Chapter No.
80

AN ACT

Relating to paternity determinations and acknowledgements.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1

Approved by the Governor: June 6, 1994
Actual Effective Date: September 4, 1994

AN ACT

1 Relating to paternity determinations and acknowledgements.

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3 * Section 1. AS 18.50 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 Sec. 18.50.165. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PATERNITY; FORMS. (a)

5 The state registrar shall prepare a form for use in acknowledging paternity under
6 AS 25.20.055. The form must include

7 (1) a statement that the man who signs the form is acknowledging that
8 the man is the natural father of the child named in the form and that the man assumes
9 the parental duty of support of that child;

10 (2) the address and social security number of both parents of the child
11 named in the form;

12 (3) signature lines for both parents; and

13 (4) a signature line for either a witness or notary public.

14 (b) The registrar shall distribute copies of the form prepared under (a) of this

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1 section to each hospital in the state, to each physician in the state whose practice
2 includes attendance at births, to each nurse-midwife and direct-entry midwife in the
3 state, and to each other interested person in the state who requests copies of the form.

4 (c) A completed form prepared under (a) of this section is presumptive
5 evidence of a parent and child relationship between the man signing the form and the
6 child named in the form if the form is signed by the man and the child's natural
7 mother and witnessed by a person qualified to take acknowledgements under
8 AS 09.63.010 or other competent adult witness.

9 (d) The state registrar shall keep on file all forms acknowledging paternity that
10 are submitted to the registrar under AS 25.20.055.

11 * Sec. 2. AS 25.20.050 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

12 (g) A default judgment shall be entered against the defendant in an action
13 where paternity is contested upon

14 (1) a showing that process was served on the defendant as required
15 under applicable state law and court rules;

16 (2) a showing that the defendant has failed to appear at a hearing in the
17 action or has failed to respond within a reasonable period of time as specified in court
18 rules; and

19 (3) any additional showing determined necessary by the court.

20 (h) The court in a paternity action shall give full faith and credit to a
21 determination of paternity made by another state, whether established through
22 voluntary acknowledgment or through administrative or judicial procedures.

23 * Sec. 3. AS 25.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

24 Sec. 25.20.055. EARLY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PATERNITY
25 PROGRAM. (a) When a birth occurs to an unmarried woman in a hospital or en
26 route to a hospital to which the woman is later admitted, the hospital shall ensure that
27 a staff member

28 (1) meets with the woman before release from the hospital;

29 (2) attempts to meet with the father of the unmarried woman's child,
30 if possible;

31 (3) presents to the mother and, if possible, the father, a pamphlet or

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1 statement regarding the rights and responsibilities of a natural parent; the Department
2 of Health and Social Services shall prepare this pamphlet and distribute copies of it
3 to each hospital in the state, to each physician in the state whose practice includes
4 attendance at births, to each nurse-midwife and direct-entry midwife in the state, and
5 to other interested persons in the state who request copies;

6 (4) provides to the mother and, if possible, the father, all forms,
7 statements, or agreements necessary to voluntarily establish a parent and child
8 relationship, including an acknowledgement of paternity form prepared under
9 AS 18.50.165;

10 (5) on request of the mother and father, assists the father in completing
11 specific forms, statements, or agreements necessary to establish a parent and child
12 relationship between the father and the child; and

13 (6) on request of the mother and father, mails a completed voluntary
14 acknowledgement of paternity form to the state registrar for filing under AS 18.50.165.

15 (b) When a birth occurs to an unmarried woman who is not in a hospital for
16 the birth nor admitted to a hospital immediately after the birth, and the birth is
17 attended by a physician, nurse-midwife, or direct-entry midwife, the physician, nurse-
18 midwife, or direct-entry midwife shall perform the duties described in (a)(2) - (6) of
19 this section or ensure that an agent performs those duties.

20 (c) When a birth occurs in a situation that is not covered by either (a) or (b)
21 of this section, any adult may, upon request of the father and mother, assist them in
22 filing a voluntary acknowledgement of paternity form with the state registrar under
23 AS 18.50.165.

24 * Sec. 4. AS 25.27.040 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

25 (c) When the agency is a party in an action in which paternity is contested, the
26 agency shall move for a default judgment in a case that meets the conditions specified
27 in AS 25.20.050(g).