



FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JUVENILE OFFICE

The Mission of the 5th Judicial Circuit, Juvenile Office is to implement restorative justice utilizing a strength-based approach to serve children, families, and the community by providing safety, discipline and education through a balanced continuum of services.

LINDA MEYER, CHIEF JUVENILE OFFICER

411 JULES STREET OFFICE #3, ST. JOSEPH, MO 64501-1729
PHONE (816) 271-1421 FAX (816) 271-1566

DATE

NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY, STATE & ZIP

Dear _____,

This letter is to provide assistance regarding the release of information from adoption records. Adoptions finalized in Missouri are confidential and regulated by statute 453.121 RSMo.

Requests for adoption information may be made to the agency which facilitated the adoptive placement or the juvenile court which finalized the adoption. Requests for information from the Fifth Judicial Circuit Juvenile Court (Buchanan and Andrew counties) must be in writing and specify the type of information being sought. The person making the request must also submit a copy of their driver's license or birth certificate as well as a death certificate if requesting adoption information about a deceased relative (lineal descendant).

The Juvenile Court may only conduct searches for biological parents, adult siblings and deceased lineal descendants. Specific conditions must be met for each search and only two types of information may be released, identifying and non-identifying information.

Non-identifying information consists of the physical description, nationality, religious background and medical history of the biological parent or sibling. This information may be released upon request to the adoptive parents, legal guardians, adopted adult or the adopted adult's lineal descendants if the adopted adult is deceased. The information released is limited to what is contained in the adoption file or court records.

Identifying information includes the name, date of birth, place of birth and last known address of the biological parent, adult sibling or lineal descendant. An adopted adult or an adopted adult's lineal descendants (if the adopted adult is deceased) may request identifying information about biological parents. Only an adopted adult may request identifying information about an adult sibling.

Juvenile Court Judges: Judge Daniel F. Kellogg & Judge Patrick K. Robb

Chief Juvenile Officer: Linda Meyer

Chief Deputy Juvenile Officer: Dan Sharp

Intake Director: Michael Rose

Child Abuse & Neglect Director: Bundini Watkins

Assessment Center Superintendent: Kimmber Jennings

Community Engagement Coordinator: Melisa Talbott

Attorney for the Juvenile Office: Shariiece Canady

Deputy Juvenile Officers: Falepeau Atoe, Lisa, Barber, Sean Barnett, Ann Becerra, Amanda Boerema, Janie Burke, Jerri Cordonnier, Angie Fisher, Marcos Flores, Caitlin Montgomery, Karla Morgan, Jennifer Riley, Tonya Sapp, Dedrick Skinner



FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JUVENILE OFFICE

The Mission of the 5th Judicial Circuit, Juvenile Office is to implement restorative justice utilizing a strength-based approach to serve children, families, and the community by providing safety, discipline and education through a balanced continuum of services.

LINDA MEYER, CHIEF JUVENILE OFFICER

411 JULES STREET OFFICE #3, ST. JOSEPH, MO 64501-1729
PHONE (816) 271-1421 FAX (816) 271-1566

Identifying information about a biological parent may only be released with their written consent or if they are found to be deceased. An adult sibling's identifying information may only be released with their written consent.

Enclosed is a "Request for Adoption Search" form. Please complete the form and return it and the other required documentation to the address provided. Upon receipt a Juvenile Officer will contact you about the status of your request.

If you have any questions please refer to statute 453.121 RSMo or contact me at (816) 271-1421.

Sincerely,

Bundini Watkins,
Director
CA/N Department

Juvenile Court Judges: Judge Daniel F. Kellogg & Judge Patrick K. Robb

Chief Juvenile Officer: Linda Meyer

Chief Deputy Juvenile Officer: Dan Sharp

Intake Director: Michael Rose

Child Abuse & Neglect Director: Bundini Watkins

Assessment Center Superintendent: Kimmer Jennings

Community Engagement Coordinator: Melisa Talbott

Attorney for the Juvenile Office: Shariece Canady

Deputy Juvenile Officers: Falepeau Atoe, Lisa, Barber, Sean Barnett, Ann Becerra, Amanda Boerema, Janie Burke, Jerri Cordonnier, Angie Fisher, Marcos Flores, Caitlin Montgomery, Karla Morgan, Jennifer Riley, Tonya Sapp, Dedrick Skinner