

412 Parental Rights



Batthula, Sharath B
Application Analyst II

CHAPTER 4, Adoption and Birth Parent Services

Revision Number: 03-03

Effective Date: 11/18/2003

412 Parental Rights

Adoption Specialist

1. Reviews the record to determine which of the following parental rights have been relinquished, terminated or otherwise resolved. All of the following parental rights, if applicable to the child's specific situation, must be resolved before an adoption can be finalized:

- ♦ a. Biological mother;
- b. Biological father (may also be referred to as the putative father);
- c. John Doe, if the name of the biological father is unknown;
- d. Legal father. If the birth mother is married at the time of the child's birth, her husband is the presumptive legal father, even if he is not the named biological father, and his parental rights must be resolved;

2. If one of the parties (except John Doe) listed above is deceased, requests a certified copy of the person's death certificate from DHEC, Bureau of Vital Statistics, if the person was born in South Carolina. If the state of birth is not South Carolina, requests the death certificate from the division of state government that tracks births and deaths; and

3. Consults with appropriate county DSS attorney who serves the child's county of residence if there is any question as to whose rights need to be resolved. This should be done as soon as adoption becomes the plan in order to avoid any problems later on.

Referenced Documents

Revision Comments