

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING FOR
PETITION FOR PATERNITY AND CUSTODY**

The Petition for Paternity and Custody needs to be notarized or brought to the Court Clerk's office for review before filing. The Clerk will notarize *if* everything is correct.

Once you receive your "draft" petition, it will need to be **retyped** in the same format. When retyping, please change the wording of his/hers, mother/father etc. to fit your situation specifically. If a portion does not fit your situation, change to fit your personal situation. Such as paternity; if you are the father, state how and whether paternity has been determined.

Only an original petition can be filed. Copies will not be accepted. **DO NOT USE THIS FORM AS AN ORIGINAL TO BE FILED** because it will be rejected. **DO NOT COPY THIS FORM AND USE IT AS AN ORIGINAL(fill in the blanks)-YOU MUST RETYPE THE WHOLE FORM.**

***DO NOT FILL IN THE BLANKS AND RETURN THE
COPY FOR FILING. RETYPE THE PETITION FOR
SUBMISSION TO THE COURT.***

The fee for filing this petition is \$55.00. When filing your petition, include your \$55.00 fee in the form of a cashier's check or money order made payable to the Citizen Potawatomi District Court.

If you are mailing your petition for filing, please include the notarized original, two copies and your filing fee. Your petition will not be filed if the fee is not received. Mail your petition and fee to:

**COURT CLERK'S OFFICE
CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION
1601 SOUTH GORDON COOPER DRIVE
SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74801**

A file-stamped copy of the petition will be mailed back to you.

Should you have any questions concerning this form, please contact me at 405-878-4844.

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE
CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION**

In the Matter of the Paternity and Custody of)
_____, a minor) **CIV-**
D.O.B.: _____)

PETITION FOR PATERNITY AND CUSTODY OF _____

COMES NOW, Petitioner, _____(your name here)_____, biological **mother/father** of _____(child/childrens names here)_____, and shows the Court as follows:

1. That Petitioner, _____(your name here)_____, is a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

2. That _____(child/children's names here)_____ is an enrolled member or is eligible for enrollment with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, date of birth: _____.

3. That Petitioner has been involved with the child rearing for the minor child since **his/her** birth and has had the child in **her/his** custody on a full-time basis since the child's birth, and it is in the best interest of the child that he/she remain in the custody of **his/her mother/father**, _____.

4. That Petitioner has been a part of the child's life and has assumed **her/his** parental responsibility pursuant to Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal custom and tradition.

5. That the Petitioner has provided the child with stability in **his/her** life and has provided a loving home environment that is essential to normal child development.

That ____ (your name here) _____, **mother/father**, wishes to continue as traditional Indian custodian.

6. That the paternity of the child has not been determined in a court of law.

7. That _____ is the biological father, with a mailing address of: _____.

WHEREFORE, this Court should find that Petitioner is a fit and proper person to have custody of said child and that it would be in the best interest of __ (child's name) __ for custody to be placed with ____ (your name) _____.

PETITIONER'S SIGNATURE

TYPE: PETITIONER'S NAME

PETITIONER'S MAILING ADDRESS

PETITIONER'S DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF POTTAWATOMIE)

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public for the state of Oklahoma, County of Pottawatomie, this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:
