

What Happens Now?

Lauren here! Congrats on getting your name change forms all buttoned-up and ready to go. But we can't celebrate quite yet: just having your forms in hand is but one part of the process. You'll need to take care of the rest of this stuff outside of my office...

But, don't sweat: I've prepped this handy checklist for you to take with you, free of charge! So

feel free to save a copy, print it out, write all over it – whatever

helps you the most!

Your To-Do List:

State: Tennessee

- Take your name petition to a local notary, and get it notarized.
- Contact your local Chancery Court to see if any additional forms may be required. (List of Courts and Counties here)
- At your local chancery court, file your petition. This requires a fee of \$200.
- (Once given your court date by the clerk) Appear in court and request your name change. If approved, you will receive a court order for your name change.

Remember! If the court asks you why you want to change your name, the following is perfectly acceptable: "I want a name that more accurately reflects my gender identity."

Note: You may be required to show additional documents during this process. Bring your <u>Driver's License</u>, <u>Birth Certificate or Passport</u>, <u>and copies of bills showing your current address</u> to any notary or court visit you make!

After that – congratulations! You've got a bona-fide court order in hand, and your new name is – legally speaking – rightfully yours!

Next, you'll want to get started updating your name with other government agencies:

- <u>Social Security Administration</u> (you **must** do this first before the DDS!)
- <u>Tennessee Department of Driver Services</u>
 - o (you must make an appointment at a Driver Services Center)
 - o Make sure to bring your court order and current license.
 - This will cost anywhere from \$8-16.
 - o More info here.