

# HOW TO CHANGE YOUR NAME

ON YOUR

Birth Certificate,  
NC Driver's License,  
& Voter Registration



## 1 Obtain two sets of fingerprint cards from the local sheriff's office:

- You may need to make an appointment with the sheriff to be fingerprinted;
- Each fingerprint card costs \$10 to complete.

## 2 Complete FBI and State Bureau of Investigation Criminal Record Checks:

- The SBI check costs \$14 and the FBI check costs \$18;
- Due to potential delays, it is recommended to complete the FBI background check first;
- Once you receive the either criminal record check results, you will have 90 days to file a Petition for Name Change on your birth certificate.

## 3 Contact your county's civil clerk to double-check the Petition for Name Change and required documents as each county's process may vary.

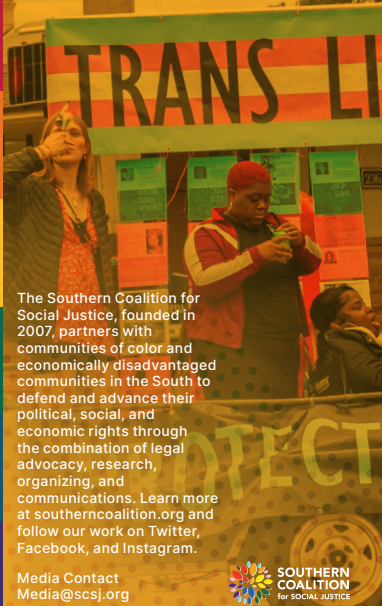
- [www.nccourts.gov/locations](http://www.nccourts.gov/locations)

## 4 File a Notice of Intent to Change with a civil clerk at your local Superior Court:

- The Notice of Intent must be posted in the courthouse for 10 consecutive days before you may file the actual Petition for Name Change. Survivors of domestic violence may request an exception to the posting requirement.

## 5 10 days after filing the notice, you can supply:

- Two notarized Affidavits of Good Character from county residents who are not related to you;
- Depending on your county, either an original or certified copy of your birth certificate
- Proof of residency in your county;
- Notarized Affidavit of Tax and Child Support Obligations;
- A notarized Petition for Name Change; (Filing and other fees may cost up to \$220. If qualified, you can file a "Petition to Proceed as an Indigent" to waive the filing fee.)



The Southern Coalition for Social Justice, founded in 2007, partners with communities of color and economically disadvantaged communities in the South to defend and advance their political, social, and economic rights through the combination of legal advocacy, research, organizing, and communications. Learn more at [southerncoalition.org](http://southerncoalition.org) and follow our work on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

Media Contact  
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After filing all your documents, the clerk will approve an Order and send you a Certificate of Name Change. You may have to attend a court hearing.

- You may also provide a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want the clerk to send you a copy of the Order.

Within 60 days of your name change becoming official on your birth certificate, you must apply for a new Driver's License. You must go to the DMV with:

- A copy of the proof of your name change;
- Your current license;
- \$13.

You'll also need to update your voter registration. You can do that by filling out a new voter registration application and sending it to your local elections board or the NC State Board of Elections.

- You can find the voter registration application and addresses for where to send it at [www.ncsbe.gov](http://www.ncsbe.gov).

For more information, contact your local LGBTQ+ resource center or the LGBTQ+ Legal Clinic.

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