

STATE OF MAINE

PROBATE COURT

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRICT COURT

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

In the Matter of the Adoption Petition of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name of Adoptee*

SURRENDER AND RELEASE OF  
CHILD FOR ADOPTION  
18-C M.R.S. § 9-202

1. I, \_\_\_\_\_, am the biological parent of \_\_\_\_\_, born in \_\_\_\_\_ (*town and state*) on the following date: \_\_\_\_\_.

2. My address is: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street City/Town Zip*

3. Information regarding the other biological parent of the child is as follows:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street City/Town Zip*

4. Select one:

A.  I am executing this surrender and release of all parental rights, custody, and control of the child to the following licensed child-placing agency:

Name of agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street City/Town Zip*

B.  I am executing this surrender and release of all parental rights, custody, and control of the child to the Maine Department of Health and Human Services.

C.  I am executing this surrender and release of all parental rights, custody, and custody of the child to a specified person(s), namely:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Legal address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street City/Town Zip*

5. I understand that I have the right to a lawyer's advice before signing this consent and that if I want a lawyer and cannot afford one, a lawyer will be assigned to represent me.

6. I understand that by signing this surrender and release, I am voluntarily giving up all my parental rights to my child.

7. I have been advised that the court may approve my surrender and release *only* if the following conditions are met:

A.  This surrender and release is being signed at least 72 hours after my child's birth, or, if the Indian Child Welfare Act applies to my case, at least 11 days after my child's birth pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 1913(a) and 22 M.R.S. § 3946.

B.  A licensed child-placing agency or the Department of Health and Human Services has  offered and provided me counseling or  offered counseling that I refused. This requirement does not apply if one of the petitioners seeking to adopt the child is a blood relative;

- C.  The court has explained what my parental rights and responsibilities are, the effect of this surrender and release on those rights and responsibilities, and that **I have the right to revoke this surrender and release within five working days**;
- D.  The court has informed me of the existence of the adoption registry and the services available under 22 M.R.S. § 2706-A;
- E.  The court determines that this surrender and release has been duly executed and was given freely after I was informed of my rights; and
- F.  The court determines that this surrender and release is in the child's best interest.

**8. I understand that this surrender and release is final and irrevocable upon the court's approval.**

9. In accordance with 18-C M.R.S. § 9-202, I hereby surrender and release my child for adoption and voluntarily relinquish all my parental rights and responsibilities to my child.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of surrendering parent

**EXECUTION OF SURRENDER AND RELEASE**

\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY

Personally appeared the above named, \_\_\_\_\_, who, under penalty of perjury, affirmed under the truth of the foregoing statements in this surrender and release and has executed this surrender and release freely and with full knowledge of the consequences stated in the surrender and release as of the date written above.

Before me,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge, Maine Probate Court / Maine District Court

**ORDER OF APPROVAL**

This surrender and release has been received by the court and docketed in the record. The court finds this surrender and release meets the requirements stated in 18-C M.R.S. § 9-202 and finds that this surrender and release is in the best interest of the child. The court hereby approves the surrender and release.

This Order is incorporated into the docket by reference at the specific direction of the court pursuant to M.R. Prob. P. 79(a) / M.R. Civ. P. 79(a).

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge, Maine Probate Court / Maine District Court

A True Copy, Attest \_\_\_\_\_  
Register / Clerk

**WITHDRAWAL OR REVOCATION**

I hereby withdraw or revoke this surrender and release.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge, Maine Probate Court / Maine District Court