

## **NOTICE TO PARENT CONSIDERING RELINQUISHMENT OF A CHILD IN DCF CUSTODY**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

Because you are interested in relinquishing your child for adoption, the Department for Children and Families (DCF) wishes to advise you in writing of DCF policies:

If you are relinquishing your child because of financial reasons, you should know that the state has public assistance programs. You have the right to apply for financial and/or medical assistance before you make a decision to relinquish your child.

DCF will not accept your relinquishment unless the decision is made voluntarily by you. Inform your Provider case manager if at any time you feel you are being harassed or coerced to relinquish parental rights to your child. If at any time you feel DCF is forcing you to relinquish your child, you have the right to inform your attorney.

Any person born in Kansas has the right to obtain his/her original birth certificate which lists your name(s) after he/she becomes an adult. The Provider case manager will ask you to provide medical and social information which will be used in determining the most appropriate adoptive family. The information will be given to your child once he/she becomes an adult, if he/she requests such information. If you wish to provide pictures or letters, they will be maintained in the child's record for him/her.

DCF has the right to accept or refuse a relinquishment. If DCF accepts your relinquishment, DCF will assume full legal and financial responsibility for the child, and you will have no further legal responsibility or rights. Until DCF accepts, the relinquishment is not considered final. If a court ordered child support obligation is in effect for your child at the time you sign the relinquishment, such obligation shall continue uninterrupted until the Secretary of DCF accepts your relinquishment in writing. If and when the Secretary accepts your relinquishment, your obligation to pay child support shall cease. You will be given written notice of DCF's decision to accept or not accept your relinquishment. Said notice will be mailed to your last known address, which needs to be listed on the relinquishment form at the time you sign the document.

DCF can advise you, at your request, when your child is placed in an adoptive home and give you non-identifying information about the adoptive family. If you wish to receive this information, you must notify your Provider case manager in writing and provide a current address if an update is needed.

DCF accepts relinquishments only for those children whom DCF expects to place in adoptive homes. If for some reason the child is not adopted, you may request that DCF advise you of the reason adoption was not achieved and what plans are being made for the child.

If you have any questions regarding any of these policies, please bring them to my attention.

Sincerely,

Social Service Supervisor

I have read and understand the above Notice and I am signing this voluntarily.

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

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

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

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

(CWCMP staff who reviewed the Notice with the Parent)

