



# Passport Name Change

Marriage, divorce, or court order.  
Which form is yours, and what  
actually counts as proof.

- Which of the three forms you need
- What "certified" really means
- The divorce decree trap, and why court is not required
- Already booked a trip? Read this first
- Real costs and the eight-to-ten week reality
- What to update after the passport arrives

YouTube: @GovClarity

A GovClarity Publication



# Start Here: What This Guide Covers

This guide covers one job: changing the name on a U.S. passport you already have, or getting a new one issued in your new name after a marriage, a divorce, or a court order.

It does not repeat the general passport process, because we have already covered that in depth elsewhere and there is no reason to make you read it twice. Here is where to go for the rest.

## Photo Rules, Citizenship Documents & Online Renewal

Photo rules, citizenship documents, the full fee table, and how online renewal works.

[govclarity.net/how-to-get-a-us-passport-2026/](https://govclarity.net/how-to-get-a-us-passport-2026/)

## Expedited Service, Regional Agencies & Emergencies

Expedited service, regional agency appointments, and true emergencies.

[govclarity.net/expedited-emergency-guide-2026/](https://govclarity.net/expedited-emergency-guide-2026/)

## Lost or Stolen Passport & Form DS-64

A passport that is lost or stolen, and Form DS-64.

[govclarity.net/lost-or-stolen-passport-2026/](https://govclarity.net/lost-or-stolen-passport-2026/)

## Holiday Deadlines & Travel Date Planning

How far ahead to apply for a specific travel date.

[govclarity.net/holiday-passport-deadlines-2026/](https://govclarity.net/holiday-passport-deadlines-2026/)

## A Child's Passport

Changing a minor's name on a passport follows a different process with its own consent requirements, and it is not covered here.

[govclarity.net/getting-your-childs-passport-fast-5-minute-guide/](https://govclarity.net/getting-your-childs-passport-fast-5-minute-guide/)

Everything that follows is name-change specific. It starts with two dates, because those two dates decide almost everything else about your application.

# Quick Reference: The Two Dates

Before anything else, find two dates and write them down.

## Date 1: Passport Issue Date

It is printed on the data page, labeled as the date of issue.

## Date 2: Legal Name Change Date

For a marriage, that is the date on the marriage certificate. For a divorce, the date the decree was granted. For a court-ordered change, the date on the order.

Now compare both dates to today.

| What the two dates show                                | What it means                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Less than one year has passed since <b>both</b> dates  | Form DS-5504 may be available, with no base application fee |
| More than one year has passed since <b>either</b> date | DS-5504 is out. Move to the DS-82 checklist                 |
| You cannot meet the full DS-82 checklist               | You are applying in person on Form DS-11                    |

### Two things people get wrong here.

First, both halves of the DS-5504 test have to be true. A passport issued three months ago does not qualify you if you married four years ago.

Second, this is a sequence, not a menu. Run DS-5504 first, then the DS-82 checklist, then DS-11 as the fallback. Applying on a form you are not eligible for can delay everything, or send you back to the start.

 One rule applies no matter which path you land on: you cannot change a name through the standard online renewal system. It specifically excludes applications that change personal information.

# Path Finder: Which of the Three Forms

Work down this list in order and stop at the first one that fits.

**1** Has it been less than a year since your passport was issued, **AND** less than a year since your name legally changed?

**Yes to both:** go to Form DS-5504. No base application fee. Skip to that section.

**No to either:** continue to Step 2.

**2** Can you answer yes to every item below?

- You can send in your most recent passport
- It was issued within the last 15 years
- It was issued when you were 16 or older
- It was valid for 10 years
- It has not been reported lost or stolen
- It is not damaged beyond normal wear and tear
- It is not a limited-validity passport

**All yes:** you renew by mail on Form DS-82. **Any single no:** continue to Step 3.

**3** You are applying in person on Form DS-11.

This is the route if your passport was issued before you turned 16, if it is more than 15 years old, if it was limited-validity, or if it is lost, stolen, or damaged. DS-11 is also the answer if you cannot produce the name change document the mail-in forms require.

 If your prior passport was lost or stolen, there is a separate report to file on Form DS-64. The lost-or-stolen guide linked at the front of this guide walks through it.

# Path 1: Form DS-5504 in Full

NO BASE APPLICATION FEE

**Who this is for:** less than one year has passed since your passport was issued and since your name legally changed. Both must be true.

## What Goes in the Envelope

1. Form DS-5504, completed and signed. Sign this one before you mail it.
2. Your current passport. The physical book goes in.
3. Your name change documentation. An original or a certified document works.
4. One new color passport photo taken within the last six months.

## Optional Add-Ons

- Expedited service: \$60
- One to three day return delivery of a passport book: \$23.36

## Key Reminders

- Once you apply, you cannot use the old passport for travel.
- Your certified document comes back separately — possibly weeks later.
- Forms must be printed single sided, 8.5 × 11 inch, portrait orientation.



If you still need your passport for upcoming travel, do not send it yet. Read the section on a trip you already booked first.

# Path 2: Form DS-82 in Full

\$130 BOOK • \$160 BOOK + CARD

**Who this is for:** more than a year has passed since either date, but you meet every item on the renewal checklist.

## The Full Checklist — All Must Be True

- You can submit your most recent passport
- Issued within the last 15 years
- Issued when you were 16 or older
- It was valid for 10 years
- Not reported lost or stolen
- Not damaged beyond normal wear and tear
- Not a limited-validity passport

⊗ Miss one and you are on DS-11. Filing DS-82 when you do not actually qualify is one of the most expensive mistakes on this list, because the clock restarts.

## What Goes in the Envelope

1. Form DS-82, completed and signed before mailing
2. Your most recent passport
3. A **certified copy** of your name change document
4. One new color photo taken within the last six months
5. Payment by check or money order

## How to Send It

Use the Postal Service and the address in the State Department instructions. Those renewal addresses are post office boxes, which means a private courier cannot deliver to them.

There is no acceptance facility fee on a mail-in renewal. If someone at a counter tries to collect the \$35 fee on a DS-82, that is the wrong process.

# Path 3: Form DS-11 in Full

\$130 BOOK + \$35 ACCEPTANCE FEE

**Who this is for:** anyone who cannot use DS-5504 or DS-82. Your passport was issued before you turned 16, or it is more than 15 years old, or it was limited-validity, or it is lost, stolen, or damaged beyond normal wear and tear.

## What to Bring

1. Form DS-11, completed but **NOT signed**. The acceptance agent administers an oath and witnesses your signature. Sign it early and you may be asked to start over.
2. Evidence of U.S. citizenship, plus a photocopy
3. Photo identification, plus a photocopy
4. Your name change documentation, unless the exception below applies
5. One color photo taken within the last six months

## The Marriage Exception Worth Knowing

If your name changed by marriage and your identification already shows your new name, you can apply on DS-11 and fill out the marriage details on page 2 instead. In that situation you would not need to produce the certificate at all.

This is a real shortcut for anyone who already updated their driver's license.

## Where to Apply

There are more than 7,500 acceptance facilities, including post offices, clerks of court, public libraries, and other local government offices. Some require appointments, so check the specific facility before you drive over.



# Proof of Name Change: What "Certified" Actually Means

This is the single most common reason these applications come back, so it is worth getting exactly right.

|                                                                                             |                                                                                                 |                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Marriage Certificate</b><br>One of three documents that qualify as proof of name change. | <b>Divorce Decree</b><br>Must contain restoration language — not just proof the marriage ended. | <b>Court Order</b><br>A court order specifically changing your name. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|

The standard is not the same on every form.

| Form    | What the instructions call for             |
|---------|--------------------------------------------|
| DS-5504 | An original <b>or</b> a certified document |
| DS-82   | A <b>certified copy</b> specifically       |

That difference is easy to miss. If you are on DS-82, do not assume a document that would have been fine on DS-5504 clears the bar.

**What makes a copy certified:** A certified copy is an official copy issued by the government authority responsible for that record. The DS-5504 instructions ask for a seal and the signature of the issuing official or judge. They do not require the seal to be raised or embossed.

**What is not certified:** A photocopy you made yourself. A scan you printed at home. The decorative certificate handed out at a wedding ceremony. A photograph on your phone. None of these are certified copies, no matter how official the original looked.

If you are holding a document and you are not sure, ask one question: did a government office issue this specific piece of paper to me, with its seal on it? If the answer is no, you need to order one.

- ❏ If no qualifying document exists at all: both DS-82 and DS-5504 say the same thing — if you cannot document the name change the way they require, apply in person on Form DS-11 instead.



# How to Get a Certified Copy

Order this early. It is the item most likely to hold up your application, and processing can take weeks depending on the office.



## Marriage in the United States

Start with the vital records office for the state where you married, not the state where you live now. That office will tell you whether the certified record comes from the state or from a local county or town office. Some states hold marriage records centrally and some do not, so the state office is the right first call either way.



## For a Divorce

Contact the clerk of the court that granted the divorce. Procedures and fees vary by state and by county.



## Marriage Outside the United States

The record is held by the foreign government that performed the marriage, not by the U.S. Department of State. Contact the office that issues marriage certificates in that country, or the embassy or consulate of the country where the marriage took place. If your document is not in English, the State Department requires a professional English translation accompanied by a notarized letter from the translator attesting to accuracy and competence.

**Order more than one.** Order at least two certified copies while you are already in the system paying the fee. Every other agency in this process wants one: Social Security, your motor vehicle department, your bank, your employer. And your copy is going in the mail to the State Department for weeks. A spare means the rest of your life does not stall while the passport is processed.

# Divorce: Restoring a Previous Name

Going back to a previous name after a divorce has a catch that surprises people, and it is worth checking before you fill out anything.

## The Decree Has to Actually Show the Name Change

A divorce decree proves the marriage ended. That is not the same as restoring your former name. The State Department needs a document showing the name change itself, so the decree has to contain that restoration language.

Pull out your decree and read it now. Look for a line specifically restoring you to your former or maiden name. Do not assume it is there because you asked for it at the time.

## If You Never Changed Your Name During the Marriage

Then nothing needs to change on your passport. This process does not apply to you.

# Divorce: What to Do If the Decree Is Silent

You are not stuck, and you probably do not need to go back to court. The advice you will hear most often gets this wrong.

## The State Department Gives You a Route

If you cannot document the name change the way DS-82 and DS-5504 require, both forms direct you to apply in person on **Form DS-11** instead. On that path you establish your birth name through your citizenship evidence, such as your birth certificate, rather than through a court document restoring it.

Check the decree first. If the restoration language is there, the mail-in paths are open to you. If it is not, DS-11 in person is your answer.

## What About an Amended Decree?

If you want the name restored on the court record for other reasons, ask the clerk of the court that granted the divorce. Many courts have a process for it. But understand what that is: a state court matter with its own fees and timeline. It is not something the State Department requires of you to get a passport. Do not let a court backlog delay your travel document.

## Decree Versus Certificate

Some states issue a short divorce record separate from the full court decree. California, for example, issues a Certificate of Record that lists only the parties' names, the filing date, the county, and the case number. The state says plainly that it is not a certified copy of the decree, and it does not even establish that the divorce was finalized.

A short-form record like that will not carry name restoration language, because it does not carry much of anything. When you order, be specific: you want the certified decree or court order, not a certificate of record.

# No Certificate or Court Order: The DS-60 Affidavit Route

Not every name change comes with a certificate. Some people have used a different name for years through custom or common usage, with no single document marking the change.

For that situation, the State Department has **Form DS-60**, an affidavit regarding a change of name.

## When This Applies

You have been using your current name consistently over time, but you cannot produce a marriage certificate, a divorce decree, or a court order that shows the change.

## What This Route Is Not

It is not a shortcut for a recent marriage or divorce where the certificate exists but is inconvenient to order. If a qualifying document exists, order it. The affidavit route is for the genuine absence of one.

DS-60 is submitted along with Form DS-11, in person. The evidence requirements are on the next page, and they contain a wrinkle worth knowing about before you assemble anything.

# DS-60: The Evidence, and a Conflict Worth Knowing About

The point of the supporting evidence is to show you have used the name publicly and exclusively over time, not that you adopted it recently.

## What the DS-60 Form Says

Submit **three or more** original or certified public documents showing public and exclusive use of the name for **five years or longer**. Tax records, medical records, employment records, military records, and state identification cards all count.

If you can produce only **two** such documents, you must also submit DS-60 affidavits from **two or more people** who have known you by both names and can attest to five or more years of exclusive use. An affiant needs personal knowledge, a photocopy of valid government-issued photo ID, and must sign in front of a passport agent, acceptance agent, or notary.

## What the Website Says Instead

The name change page on [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov) words it differently. It says DS-60 must be completed by two people, **and** that you must submit three public records. Not either-or.

## How to Handle a Conflict Between Two Official Sources

These two do not currently match, and we are not going to pretend otherwise. Satisfy the stricter reading: three or more public records covering five or more years, **plus** two affiants. That package clears both versions and costs you nothing but a little extra gathering.

The State Department makes the final determination based on all evidence submitted, so the affidavit alone does not settle it.

 Before you go this way, call the National Passport Information Center and describe your specific situation. This is a judgment-based route, and a phone call before you assemble a package is worth the time.

# Name Change Costs and Timing

Only the figures that matter for a name change appear here. The complete fee table covering cards, children, and every combination is in the general passport guide linked at the front.

## Fees

| Item                                        | Cost    |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|
| DS-5504 base application fee                | \$0     |
| DS-82, adult passport book                  | \$130   |
| DS-82, book and card together               | \$160   |
| DS-11, adult passport book                  | \$130   |
| DS-11 acceptance facility fee               | \$35    |
| Expedited service, any form                 | \$60    |
| One to three day return delivery, book only | \$23.36 |

Return delivery is not offered on a card-only application, and it only speeds up the trip back to you after the passport is printed. It does nothing for the mail going in.

## Processing Time

| Service   | Government Processing |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| Routine   | 4 to 6 weeks          |
| Expedited | 2 to 3 weeks          |

## The Number That Actually Matters

Those windows cover the government's side only. The State Department says to allow up to two weeks for your application to reach them, and up to another two weeks for the new passport to come back. Added together, a routine application can run roughly **eight to ten weeks door to door**. Treat that as a conservative planning estimate.

## Paying

Mail-in applications take a check or money order, not a credit card. Write your full name and date of birth on the check, and make it payable to the U.S. Department of State.

# You Already Booked a Trip

This is the section that strands people, so read it before you mail anything.

## The Default Answer: Leave the Passport Alone

You do not have to change your passport before your trip. A passport in your former name is still a valid passport. For most people with travel coming up, the right move is to travel on the current book and handle the name change afterward.

## But That Only Works If the Ticket Matches

The airline matches your ticket to the passport you will actually travel with. Not to your new driver's license, and not to your marriage certificate. U.S. Customs and Border Protection tells travelers to buy the ticket in the exact name shown on that passport.

So if you already booked under your new married name, that is the problem to solve, not the passport. Contact the airline and correct the reservation before you go. Do not assume a marriage certificate will satisfy their check-in procedure.

## Check the Expiration Date While You Are Looking

Many countries require at least six months of passport validity beyond your travel dates. Look up your specific destination before you rely on that book.

## If You Truly Need the New Passport Before You Leave

Regional passport agencies hold urgent travel appointments. They are for international travel within 14 calendar days, or within 28 days if you also need a foreign visa. You must show proof of the travel, and an appointment is not guaranteed. Call the National Passport Information Center to check availability.



# Foreign Visas in the Old Passport

If your current passport holds a valid visa for another country, a name change creates a complication worth planning around.

## The Visa Stays in the Old Book

A foreign visa is issued in the pages of a specific passport. When you get a new passport, that visa does not move to it, and the new passport carries a new number.

## The Foreign Government Decides, Not the State Department

Whether a visa left in your old passport can still be used is a decision for the country that issued it. The State Department's own instruction is to contact the embassy or consulate that issued the visa and ask whether it can still be used, and what they require.

Do not assume you can simply carry both books. Some countries do work that way, others require the visa to be reissued, and only the issuing authority can tell you which applies to you.

**Ask before you apply for the new passport, not after.** If the visa has to be reissued, that timeline can run longer than the passport itself.

## Keep the Old Passport

Your old passport is returned to you after a mail-in application, unless it was damaged or intentionally altered. It comes back cancelled. Do not throw it away, and do not alter it yourself. Store it with the new one.

 A readable visa page in a cancelled passport is not proof that the visa still works. Confirm with the issuing embassy or consulate before you book anything that depends on it.

## The New Number Ripples Outward

A new passport number affects more than visas. The next section covers everything else that needs updating.

# Order of Operations: Social Security, Motor Vehicles, State, and Trusted Traveler

A name change is not one transaction. It is a sequence, and doing it in a sensible order saves repeat trips.

**i One myth to clear first.** You will often read that you must update Social Security before you can change your passport. That is not a State Department requirement. The passport application asks for the correct form, your citizenship and identity evidence, and your name change documentation. It does not ask whether Social Security has caught up. If you have travel coming up, you can start the passport now.

01

## Social Security Administration — Before the Motor Vehicle Department

Here is where the ordering genuinely matters. Some state motor vehicle departments verify your name and Social Security number against Social Security records during the transaction. If Social Security still has your old name, that check can fail and you lose the trip.

[govclarity.net/replace-your-social-security-card-online-2026-guide/](https://govclarity.net/replace-your-social-security-card-online-2026-guide/)

02

## Your State Motor Vehicle Department

Your driver's license or state identification card. Worth doing early for a second reason: if your identification already shows your new name, that opens the page 2 shortcut on Form DS-11 described earlier.

[govclarity.net/real-id-2026-new-tsa-requirements-you-must-know-updated-guide/](https://govclarity.net/real-id-2026-new-tsa-requirements-you-must-know-updated-guide/)

03

## The Passport — Using This Guide

This one can run in parallel with the first two if you are short on time.

Steps 4 and 5 come after your new passport is in your hand, and they are on the next page.

# After the Passport Arrives: Trusted Traveler and PreCheck

This is the step almost everyone forgets, and it has real consequences at the airport. Put a reminder on your calendar for the week your new passport is due.

## Step 4: Trusted Traveler Programs

Your new passport has a **new number**. If you have Global Entry, update your passport information in your Trusted Traveler account. And where that update involves a name change, U.S. Customs and Border Protection requires a visit to an enrollment center. A name change is not a form you submit from home.

*Current as of August 2026.* Customs and Border Protection has been expanding what its online Trusted Traveler services can handle, so check [ttp.cbp.dhs.gov](http://cbp.dhs.gov) before you book an appointment in case name changes have moved online since publication.

[govclarity.net/global-entry-renewal-2026/govclarity.net/global-entry-2026-new-biometric-rules-you-must-know-updated-guide/](https://govclarity.net/global-entry-renewal-2026/govclarity.net/global-entry-2026-new-biometric-rules-you-must-know-updated-guide/)

## Step 5: TSA PreCheck and Your Known Traveler Number

If you have PreCheck from the Transportation Security Administration, update your enrollment too. TSA is blunt about this one: change your name and fail to update your membership, and you will not be able to use your PreCheck benefits. The name on your airline reservation has to be an exact match to the name on your enrollment.



None of this updates itself, and none of it is checked until the moment it matters, standing at a kiosk or a gate.

# Mailing and Packaging Rules

Small mechanical mistakes cause a surprising share of the delays. Run this list before the envelope closes.

## Printing

Forms must be printed single sided, on 8.5 by 11 inch paper, in portrait orientation. The State Department does not accept double-sided forms. If your printer defaults to two-sided, change it before you print.

## Signing

| Form    | When to Sign                                       |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------|
| DS-5504 | Before mailing                                     |
| DS-82   | Before mailing                                     |
| DS-11   | <b>Not until the acceptance agent tells you to</b> |

## Sending

DS-82 goes through the Postal Service to the address in the State Department instructions. Those addresses are post office boxes, so a private courier cannot deliver to them.

## Your Passport Is Out of Service the Moment You Apply

On the mail-in paths, your current passport goes in the envelope. Once you have applied, you cannot use it for travel. Do not mail it if you still need it.

## Getting Your Documents Back

Your old passport and your supporting documents come back separately from the new passport. Sometimes in more than one mailing, and officially they can arrive up to four weeks later.

This catches people badly. A new passport arrives, the certified marriage certificate does not, and the assumption is that it was lost. It usually was not. Wait out the four weeks before you start making calls, and do not schedule anything that depends on having that certificate in hand the same week.

# Common Mistakes, Expanded

- 1** **Sending a Photocopy Instead of a Certified Copy**  
**Why it happens:** the original looks official, so a copy of it feels sufficient.  
**Prevent it:** order certified copies from the issuing office, and order a spare.  
**If you already did it:** your package comes back, and the timeline restarts from your resubmission.
- 2** **Filing DS-82 Without Meeting the Checklist**  
**Why it happens:** people check one or two items, usually the 15-year rule, and assume the rest.  
**Prevent it:** run all seven items in the Path Finder, out loud, before you commit.  
**If you already did it:** expect a delay and a probable redirect to applying in person on DS-11.
- 3** **Booking a Ticket in the New Name While Traveling on the Old Passport**  
**Why it happens:** the name change feels finished once the certificate is in hand.  
**Prevent it:** book in the exact name on the passport you will physically carry.  
**If you already did it:** call the airline now, well before the travel date. Do not wait for the counter.

# Common Mistakes, Continued

- 1 Mailing the Passport When You Still Need It**

**Why it happens:** nobody expects the old book to stop working the moment they apply.

**Prevent it:** settle your travel plans before the envelope goes out.

**If you already did it:** call the National Passport Information Center about urgent travel options.
- 2 Forgetting the Downstream Updates**

**Why it happens:** the new passport arrives and it feels done.

**Prevent it:** calendar reminder for Trusted Traveler and Known Traveler Number updates.
- 3 Assuming a Divorce Decree Restores Your Former Name**

**Why it happens:** the divorce is final, so the name feels final.

**Prevent it:** read the decree for the restoration language before applying.

**If it is not there:** apply in person on DS-11 and establish your birth name through your citizenship evidence. Do not let anyone tell you a court trip is required first.

# Checklists

## Form DS-5504 (no base fee)

- ☐ Both dates confirmed under one year
  - ☐ DS-5504 printed single sided, completed, and signed
  - ☐ Current passport in the envelope
  - ☐ Original or certified name change document
  - ☐ One color photo, taken within six months
  - ☐ Travel plans checked before mailing
  - ☐ Expedite and return delivery decided
- 

## Form DS-82 (\$130 book, \$160 book and card)

- ☐ All seven checklist items confirmed yes
- ☐ DS-82 printed single sided, completed, and signed
- ☐ Most recent passport in the envelope
- ☐ Certified copy of the name change document
- ☐ One color photo, taken within six months
- ☐ Check or money order, full name and date of birth written on it
- ☐ Sending via the Postal Service to the P.O. box address
- ☐ No one charged you the \$35 acceptance fee

## Form DS-11 (\$130 plus \$35 acceptance fee)

- ☐ Appointment booked at an acceptance facility
  - ☐ DS-11 completed but not signed
  - ☐ Citizenship evidence, plus a photocopy
  - ☐ Photo identification, plus a photocopy
  - ☐ Name change document, or new-name ID plus page 2 marriage details
  - ☐ One color photo, taken within six months
  - ☐ Both payments ready, in the correct forms
- 

## If You Have a Trip Already Booked

- ☐ Name on the reservation matches the passport you will carry
- ☐ Passport valid at least six months beyond your travel dates
- ☐ Destination entry requirements checked
- ☐ Decided whether to travel first and apply after

# Official Resources

## National Passport Information Center

**1-877-487-2778** • TDD/TTY 1-888-874-7793

Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Eastern. Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Eastern. Closed federal holidays.

Call here for application status, urgent travel appointments, and questions about your specific situation. Weekend coverage is real, so a passport problem that surfaces on a Saturday does not have to wait until Monday.

## U.S. Department of State, Passport Services

[travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov)

Forms DS-5504, DS-82, DS-11, DS-64, and DS-60 are all free to download. Never pay a third-party site for a government form.

## Where to Write for Vital Records

[cdc.gov/nchs/w2w](https://cdc.gov/nchs/w2w)

The National Center for Health Statistics directory of every state's vital records office, with addresses and fees. Start here for a certified marriage record.

**For a divorce record:** contact the clerk of the court that granted the divorce directly. There is no national office.

## U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Trusted Traveler Programs

[ttp.cbp.dhs.gov](https://ttp.cbp.dhs.gov) • CBP Information Center: 1-877-227-5511

For Global Entry passport and name updates, and to book an enrollment center appointment.

## Transportation Security Administration Contact Center

**1-866-289-9673**

For TSA PreCheck enrollment and Known Traveler Number questions.

## Social Security Administration

**1-800-772-1213** • [ssa.gov](https://ssa.gov)

For the Social Security name change. Do this before your motor vehicle department visit. It is not a prerequisite for the passport.



# Get the Rest of Our Free Guides

Start at [govclarity.net](https://govclarity.net) — Everything we make lives there: the full written guide for every video, the free PDF downloads, and the video itself embedded on the page. No email required, nothing gated.

<https://govclarity.net/free-guides/>

## The Passport and Travel Guides That Pair With This One

### How to Get a US Passport in 2026: New Rules & Online Renewal

Photo rules, citizenship documents, the complete fee table, and online renewal.

[govclarity.net/how-to-get-a-us-passport-2026/](https://govclarity.net/how-to-get-a-us-passport-2026/)

### How to Get a U.S. Passport Fast: Expedited & Emergency 2026

Every expedited option, regional agency appointments, and genuine emergencies.

[govclarity.net/...expedited-emergency-guide-2026/](https://govclarity.net/...expedited-emergency-guide-2026/)

### What to Do If Your Passport Is Lost or Stolen (2026)

Form DS-64, embassy help abroad, and emergency replacement.

[govclarity.net/lost-or-stolen-passport-2026/](https://govclarity.net/lost-or-stolen-passport-2026/)

### 2026 Passport Deadlines: Apply Now or Miss Christmas Abroad

How far ahead to apply for a specific travel date.

[govclarity.net/holiday-passport-deadlines-2026/](https://govclarity.net/holiday-passport-deadlines-2026/)

### Global Entry Renewal 2026

[govclarity.net/global-entry-renewal-2026/](https://govclarity.net/global-entry-renewal-2026/)

### Skip the Customs Line with Mobile Passport Control

[govclarity.net/mobile-passport-control-vs-global-entry/](https://govclarity.net/mobile-passport-control-vs-global-entry/)

### Real ID 2026: New TSA Requirements

[govclarity.net/real-id-2026-new-tsa-requirements-you-must-know-updated-guide/](https://govclarity.net/real-id-2026-new-tsa-requirements-you-must-know-updated-guide/)

Subscribe on YouTube at [@GovClarity](https://www.youtube.com/GovClarity) for new guides as rules change.

# About This Guide

GovClarity publishes plain-English guides to government processes. We read the official sources so you do not have to, and we tell you what actually happens rather than what the form says.

## Accuracy

Every fee, processing time, and requirement in this guide was verified against U.S. Department of State sources as of August 2026. The companion video script passed four independent fact-check reviews, and this guide passed two more on top of that.

## Where Official Sources Disagree, We Say So

In two places this guide flags a conflict rather than picking the version that reads better: the DS-60 evidence requirements, where the form and the website do not match, and the Global Entry name change process, which Customs and Border Protection has been moving between online and in-person. We would rather you know the ground is uneven than be confidently wrong.

## Fees Change

Return delivery went from \$22.05 to \$23.36 earlier in 2026. Before you write a check, confirm current fees at [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov).

## This Is Not Legal Advice

Name change requirements vary by state, and court procedures vary by county. For questions about your specific situation, call the National Passport Information Center at 1-877-487-2778, or the clerk of the court that handled your case.

- 📄 Found something out of date? Tell us in the comments on the video. We update our guides when rules change, and viewers catch things first more often than you would think.