



Department of
Social Services
Building a Stronger Louisiana

You Can Count On Us!

This public document was published at a total cost of \$250.11. Fifteen hundred (1500) copies of this public document were published in this eighth printing at a cost of \$138.04. The total cost of all printings of this document, including reprints is \$1,391.65. This document was published for Office of Community Services, P.O. Box 3318, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 by the Division of Administration, State Printing Office, to give adult adoptees information about the Louisiana Adoption Voluntary Registry under authority of special exception by the Division of Administration. This material was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31.

OCS FORM VR-1
Replacing: 01/99
Reissued: 09/08

LOUISIANA ADOPTION VOLUNTARY REGISTRY



Linking Adoptees And Birth Families

**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

What Is the Louisiana Adoption Voluntary Registry?

The Voluntary Registry is a program administered by the Department of Social Services to facilitate voluntary contact between persons adopted in Louisiana and their birth family members.

Who May Register?

The following people are eligible to use the Registry: an adopted person who is at least 18 years of age, the biological parents, any biological sibling who is at least 18 years of age, the parent or sibling of a deceased biological parent, and an adoptive parent of a minor or deceased adopted person.

How Do I Get On the Registry?

The person interested in registering should contact the registry by phone at (225) 342-9922 or 1-800-259-2456 and request a registration packet. The packet includes all necessary forms and instructions. Registration will occur upon receipt of completed registration packet information and the one time \$25.00 registration fee. Registration remains in effect indefinitely, unless withdrawn drawn by registrant's written request.

What Happens If There Is a Match?

If after registration there should be a match, both parties will be required to complete one hour of counseling. Upon receipt of the completed counseling forms from both parties, the Registry will submit a written letter to the counselor of the adoptee (or the counselor of the adoptive parent in the case of a minor or deceased adoptee) providing the identifying contact information of the registered parties. This counselor shall then contact the matched registered parties in a careful and confidential manner to give them the information to contact each other.

Will DSS Help Me Search?

No. The Louisiana Adoption Voluntary registry is a "passive" match registry and does not search. All contacts through the Registry are by voluntary mutual consent.

If I'm Registered, Will DSS Tell Me If the Person I'm Seeking Contact with Is Deceased?

In any case where one or both of the birth parents are deceased, or where the adopted person is deceased and when this fact is known by the Voluntary Registry, this information shall be disclosed to any person who has registered.

Where Do I Write?

Send written inquiries to :

The Louisiana Adoption Voluntary Registry
Post Office Box 3318
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821



**Department of
Social Services**
Building a Stronger Louisiana

Call 225-342-9922 or 1-800-259-2456 with any questions.