# **Adoption**



### **Adoption Process in Utah**

Adopting a child is a wonderful journey that comes with some challenges. The process is made to ensure that the child is placed into a caring, loving and stable home environment. *In the state of Utah there are certain rules and regulations that must be followed in order to complete the adoption process.* 

Before adoption can even be considered a child must be freed from the legal rights of their birth parent. This is a necessary step that must be taken for the child to be able to transfer to a new family. Once this is complete there still remain different factors, depending on the child's family, age and other considerations.



There will remain a lengthy set of mandatory court responsibilities that follow the adoption of a child that include:

- · Case review
- Termination of birth parent rights
- · Setting goals for the child's future
- · Completing the adoption

If you are in the state of Utah and wish to begin the adoption process it is imperative that you contact the Law Offices of David Pedrazas.

## **Types of Adoptions**

**There are closed and open adoptions.** A closed adoption means that no knowledge of the birth parents will be shared with you. There is no contact between the two parties, and the state is the only entity with identifying information about the child. An open adoption allows contact between all parties.

**Children living in foster care are not under the legal guardianship of their birth parents.** These children are up for adoption and are typically living in foster homes. **Independent adoption** is when a family uses an intermediary to adopt a child. This process is legal in the state of Utah and is the recommended route for adopting an infant.

**Adopting a relative is another option.** This person can be infant, adult, grandchild or any other relative. Common reasons for this include divorce, death and financial strain.

To begin the process of adoption you must first make the decision to adopt. You will then want to contact an adoption agency, apply to adopt a child, complete a home study where your home life is assessed, be matched with a child, and finalize the process in the correct legal proceedings.

It is important to note that fostering a child differs from adoption in that a foster child tends to be a temporary stay until the child is adopted by you or another party.

### **Benefits of Having A Family Law Attorney**

It is of the utmost importance to consider an attorney for your adoption needs because a family law attorney is qualified to give sound legal advice, has intimate knowledge of the legal process and can make sure that all steps are taken the correct way. Having a strong attorney at your side will make your life easier. You can focus on the child rather than the overwhelming paperwork and legal jargon involved in this process.

#### **Choose the Law Office of David Pedrazas**

David Pedrazas and his team of professionals have practiced family law for over 15 years. David has been a part of over 1000 cases and has a track record of success. He is available for a free 30-minute consultation no matter your legal needs. If you are in need of a family law attorney, do not hesitate to fill out a contact form at here, or reach us at 801-263-7078 Monday thru Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.