

Navigating Through The Adoption Bureaucracy

Adopting through the foster care system can be challenging in many ways. Often there is an agonizingly long wait for completion of the legal process to terminate parental rights or obtain voluntary consents to the adoption. And once the adoption petition is filed, negotiations for adoption assistance begin. The process can be confusing, and the rules seem to change without warning. State and Federal assistance is not as available or as generous as it has been in the past. More than ever, it is important to have the assistance and advice of an attorney. I have had the privilege of helping adoptive parents through this maze and seeing the smiles on the faces of new parents and adoptive children when the Judge declares "Adoption Granted!" It makes my day.