

SENATE BILL 30 / SL 2007-116

Domestic Violence Victims / Add Protections

SUMMARY OF SECTION 1: NAME CHANGE

Effective Date: October 1, 2007

Who Should Have Copies: please distribute copies of the bill in your community

- ✓ Victims/Survivors
- ✓ Court Advocates
- ✓ Legal Aid Attorneys
- ✓ Private Attorneys
- ✓ Magistrates
- ✓ Law Enforcement
- ✓ Judges
- ✓ District Attorneys
- ✓ Victim/Witness Coordinators
- ✓ Mediators
- ✓ DSS Workers

Amendments to Name Change Procedure, NCGS § 101-2

1. Summary: This section amends the name change statute so that a public posting is not required for victims of domestic violence, sexual offense, or stalking who provide appropriate documentation.
2. What is the appropriate documentation?
The applicant for the name change can either:
 - 1) be a participant in the address confidentiality program; or
 - 2) provide evidence that she/he is a victim of domestic violence, sexual offense, or stalking through:
 - a. law enforcement, court, or other federal or state agency records or files; or
 - b. documentation from a local domestic violence program that receives state funding from the Domestic Violence Center Fund if the applicant is a victim of domestic violence.
3. Will the court records be public?
NO; the court's entire record of the proceedings relating to the applicant's name change will not be a matter of public record, and the records shall be maintained separately from other records and withheld from public inspection.
4. Will the file ever be opened?
Only by order of the court or with the written consent of the applicant.

Prepared by the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence