

Questions to Ask Your Adoption Attorney

Your lawyer works only for you. Use these to make sure you understand your specific situation.

Your independent attorney's only job is representing you — not Heart to Heart, not the adoptive family. These questions can help you get the most out of that relationship.

About consent

- ☐ When can I sign, and what happens if I sign outside of court versus in court?
- ☐ What is my specific revocation window if I sign outside of court?
- ☐ What does it mean that signing in court is usually final right away?

About the father

- ☐ Does the father's consent matter in my situation?
- ☐ What if I don't know who the father is, or can't reach him?
- ☐ What if he disagrees with my decision?

About my contact agreement

- ☐ How do we make my Post-Adoption Contact Agreement specific enough to be enforceable?
- ☐ What happens if the agreement isn't followed after placement?
- ☐ Can the agreement be changed later, and how?

About money

- ☐ What financial assistance am I eligible for, and when does it start?
- ☐ Do I ever have to pay any of this back?
- ☐ What's the difference between legal assistance and anything that might be considered an illegal payment?

About my specific situation

- ☐ Is there anything unusual about my situation I should know about going in?
- ☐ What should I expect at each step, given my timeline?
- ☐ What should I do if I start to feel pressured by anyone in this process?

There's no such thing as a bad question here. This is your process, and your attorney is there to make sure you understand every part of it.

Questions? Call or text anytime — day or night. 518-557-1722 | 877-437-3424 | Text 801-563-1000