

(4) DRUG ADDICTION, AS THAT TERM IS DEFINED IN § 9-101 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE.

(D) "DISRUPTED PLACEMENT" MEANS THAT THE CHILD IS PERMANENTLY REMOVED FROM THE ADOPTIVE FAMILY BY THE CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY PRIOR TO THE ENTRY OF A FINAL DECREE OF ADOPTION.

(E) (1) "FATHER" MEANS THE MAN WHO:

(I) WAS MARRIED TO THE CHILD'S MOTHER AT THE TIME OF CONCEPTION OR BIRTH;

(II) IS NAMED AS THE FATHER ON THE CHILD'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR IS IDENTIFIED BY THE MOTHER AS THE FATHER, UNLESS HE SIGNS A DENIAL OF PATERNITY OR HIS NONPATERNITY HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE COURT BY AFFIDAVIT OR TESTIMONY;

(III) HAS BEEN ADJUDICATED TO BE THE FATHER; OR

(IV) HAS ACKNOWLEDGED HIMSELF TO BE THE FATHER, VERBALLY OR IN WRITING, AND THE MOTHER OF THE CHILD AGREES THAT HE IS THE CHILD'S FATHER.

(2) IF A MAN NOT MEETING ANY OF THESE CRITERIA CLAIMS TO BE THE FATHER, THE PERSON FILING A PETITION FOR ADOPTION OR GUARDIANSHIP SHALL NOTIFY THE COURT, AND A HEARING SHALL BE HELD ON THE ISSUE OF PATERNITY.

(F) "GUARDIANSHIP" MEANS GUARDIANSHIP WITH THE RIGHT TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION OR LONG-TERM CARE SHORT OF ADOPTION.

(G) "INDEPENDENT ADOPTION" MEANS AN ADOPTION IN WHICH THE PLACEMENT FOR ADOPTION IS NOT MADE BY A CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY.

(H) "MINOR PARENT" MEANS A PARENT WHO, AT THE TIME OF GIVING CONSENT TO GUARDIANSHIP OR ADOPTION OF THE CHILD, HAS NOT ATTAINED THE AGE OF 18 YEARS.

(I) "PLACEMENT FOR ADOPTION" MEANS THAT THE CHILD IS LIVING IN A FAMILY HOME DULY APPROVED FOR ADOPTION BY A CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY, WITH THE INTENT THAT THE CHILD BE ADOPTED BY THE FAMILY.

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(A) EXCEPT WHEN NATURAL PARENTS' RIGHTS HAVE BEEN TERMINATED BY A VALID JUDICIAL PROCEEDING, CONSENT TO AN ADOPTION SHALL BE OBTAINED FROM:

(1) THE MOTHER;