

Section 5-314(a), 5-4B-01(f), 5-4B-02(a), 5-4B-05, and 5-4B-12
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1999 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Family Law
Section 5-4B-01(g)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1999 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Family Law

5-314.

(a) The consent of a natural parent to either an adoption or guardianship of a child is not valid unless the consent contains an express notice of:

- (1) the right to revoke consent under § 5-311 or § 5-317 of this subtitle;
- (2) the search rights of adopted individuals and biological parents under [Subtitles 3A and 4B] SUBTITLE 3A of this title AND THE SEARCH RIGHTS OF ADOPTED INDIVIDUALS, BIOLOGICAL PARENTS, AND SIBLINGS UNDER SUBTITLE 4B OF THIS TITLE; and
- (3) the right to file a disclosure veto under § 5-3A-05 of this title.

5-4B-01.

(f) "Search, contact, and reunion services" means services:

- (1) to locate adopted individuals [and], biological parents of adopted individuals, AND SIBLINGS OF ADOPTED INDIVIDUALS;
- (2) to assess the mutual desire for communication or disclosure of information between adopted individuals and biological parents of adopted individuals OR BETWEEN ADOPTED INDIVIDUALS AND SIBLINGS OF ADOPTED INDIVIDUALS; and
- (3) to provide, or provide referral to, counseling for adopted individuals [and], biological parents of adopted individuals, AND SIBLINGS OF ADOPTED INDIVIDUALS.

(G) "SIBLING" MEANS A BROTHER OR SISTER OF THE WHOLE OR HALF BLOOD WHO:

- (1) IS AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD; AND
- (2) HAS BEEN ADOPTED.