

2-C-0 | ADOPTION AND BIRTH RECORDS

Except for birth records over 100 years old which are not under seal pursuant to court order, all birth records are considered to be confidential documents and exempt from public inspection; such records may be disclosed only as provided by law. Section 382.025(1), F.S.; AGO 74-70. Cf. s. 383.51, F.S. (the identity of a parent who leaves a newborn infant at a hospital, emergency medical services station, or fire station in accordance with s. 383.50, F.S., is confidential).

Adoption records are also confidential and may not be disclosed except as provided in s. 63.162, F.S. And see s. 63.165(1), F.S. (state adoption registry); and s. 63.0541, F.S. (putative father registry).

An unadopted individual, however, has the right to obtain his or her birth records which include the names of the individual's parents from the hospital in which he or she was born. *Atwell v. Sacred Heart Hospital of Pensacola*, 520 So. 2d 30 (Fla. 1988).

(Florida Office of the Attorney General // © March 9, 2023)

