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§ 51.22 [Reserved]

§ 51.23 Name of applicant to be used in passport.

The passport application shall contain the full name of the applicant. The applicant shall explain any material discrepancies between the name to be placed in the passport and the name recited in the evidence of citizenship and identity submitted. The passport issuing office may require documentary evidence or affidavits of persons having knowledge of the facts to support the explanation of the discrepancies.

[SD-165, 46 FR 2343, Jan. 9, 1981]

§ 51.24 Change of name.

An applicant whose name has been changed by court order or decree shall submit with his or her application a certified copy of the order or decree. An applicant who has changed his or her name by the adoption of a new name without formal court proceedings shall submit with his or her application evidence that he or she has publicly and exclusively used the adopted name over a long period of time.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[31 FR 13540, Oct. 20, 1966, as amended at 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984]

§ 51.25 Photographs.

(a) *Photographs of bearer.* The applicant shall submit with his or her application duplicate photographs of the size specified in the application. The photographs should be sufficiently recent to be a good likeness of and satisfactorily identify the applicant. The photographs shall be signed in the same manner and form as required in the application.

(b) *Photographs of uniformed personnel.* Only applicants who are in the active service of the Armed Forces and proceeding abroad in the discharge of their duties may submit photographs in the uniform of the Armed Forces of the United States.

(c) *Unacceptable photographs.* A photograph with a waxed back or other coating which lessens adhesiveness is not acceptable. Newspaper or magazine pictures, snapshots, or full length photographs are not acceptable. Photo-

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graphs of persons in the uniform of a civilian organization, except religious dress, will not generally be accepted.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[31 FR 13540, Oct. 20, 1966, as amended at 43 FR 1791, Jan. 12, 1978; 44 FR 19394, Apr. 3, 1979; SD-165, 46 FR 2343, Jan. 9, 1981; 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984]

§ 51.26 Incompetents.

A parent, a legal guardian, or a person in loco parentis shall execute a passport application on behalf of a person declared incompetent.

§ 51.27 Minors.

(a) *Definitions.* A minor is an unmarried person under the age of 18 years.

(b) *Execution of application for minors.*

(1) A minor of age 13 years or above shall execute an application on his or her own behalf unless in the judgment of the person before whom the application is executed it is not desirable for the minor to execute his or her own application. In such case it must be executed by a parent or guardian of the minor, or by a person in loco parentis.

(2) A parent, a guardian, or person in loco parentis shall execute the application for minors under the age of 13 years. Applications may be executed by either parent, regardless of the parent's citizenship. Permission of or notification to the other parent will not be required unless such permission or notification is required by a court order registered with the Department of State by an objecting parent as provided in paragraph (d)(1) of this section.

(3) The passport issuing office may require a minor under the age of 18 years to obtain and submit the written consent of a parent, a legal guardian or a person in loco parentis to the issuance of the passport.

(c) Objection by parent, guardian or person in loco parentis in cases not involving a custody dispute. At any time prior to the issuance of a passport to a minor, the application may be disapproved and a passport will be denied upon receipt of a written objection from a person having legal custody of the minor.

(d) Objection by parent, guardian or person in loco parentis in cases where

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minors are the subject of a custody dispute.

(1)(i) When there is a dispute concerning the custody of a minor, a passport may be denied if the Department has on file a court order granted by a court of competent jurisdiction in the United States or abroad which: (A) Grants sole custody to the objecting parent; or, (B) Establishes joint legal custody; or, (C) Prohibits the child's travel without the permission of both parents or the court; or, (D) Requires the permission of both parents or the court for important decisions, unless permission is granted in writing as provided therein. (ii) For passport issuance purposes, a court order providing for joint legal custody will be interpreted as requiring the permission of both parents. The Department will consider a court of competent jurisdiction to be a U.S. state court or a foreign court located in the child's home state or place of habitual residence. Notwithstanding the existence of any such court order, a passport may be issued when compelling humanitarian or emergency reasons relating to the welfare of the child exist.

(2) Either parent may obtain information regarding the application for and issuance of a passport to a minor unless the inquiring parent's parental rights have been terminated by a court order which has been registered with the appropriate office at the Department of State; provided, however, that the Department may deny such information to any parent if it determines that the minor is of sufficient maturity to assert a privacy interest in his/her own right, in which case the minor's written consent to disclosure shall be required.

(3) The Department may require that conflicts regarding custody orders, whether domestic or foreign, be settled by the appropriate court before a passport may be issued.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[31 FR 13540, Oct. 20, 1966, as amended at 61 FR 6505, Feb. 21, 1996]

§ 51.28 Identity of applicant.

(a) If the applicant is not personally known to the official receiving the application he or she shall establish his

or her identity by the submission of a previous passport, other identifying documents or by an identifying witness.

(b) If an applicant submits an application under the provisions of paragraph (c) of § 51.21 he or she must submit a prior passport with his or her application.

(c) Any official receiving an application for a passport or any Passport Issuing Office may require such additional evidence of identity as may be deemed necessary.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[33 FR 12043, Aug. 24, 1968, as amended at SD-165, 46 FR 2343, Jan. 9, 1981; 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984]

§ 51.30 Persons unacceptable as witnesses.

The passport issuing office will not accept as witness to a passport application a person who has received or expects to receive a fee for his services in connection with executing the application or obtaining the passport.

§ 51.31 Affidavit of identifying witness.

(a) An identifying witness shall execute an affidavit stating: That he or she resides at a specific address; that he or she knows or has reason to believe that the applicant is a citizen of the United States; the basis of his or her knowledge concerning the applicant; and that the information set out in his or her affidavit is true to the best of his or her knowledge and belief.

(b) If the witness has a U.S. passport, he or she shall state the place of issue and, if possible, the number and approximate date of issue.

(c) The identifying witness shall subscribe to his or her statement before the same person who took the passport application.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[31 FR 13540, Oct. 20, 1966, as amended at 31 FR 14522, Nov. 11, 1966; 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984]

§ 51.32 Amendment of passports.

Applicants for amendment of a passport shall be made on forms prescribed by the Department.

[SD-165, 46 FR 2343, Jan. 9, 1981]