

**KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE**

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**King County**

# CLERK'S ALERT

In March of 2018, the legislature passed SB 6037, a new Uniform Parentage Act (UPA). The new UPA will be effective January 1, 2019 and substantially changes how parentage is established in Washington State. The change to the UPA necessitates changes to King County family law procedures and the creation of new case types. The new case types require new notices and case schedules that will be issued at the time of filing.

The new UPA:

- Creates a way to establish parentage for people who utilize surrogates or assisted reproduction technologies to have a child.
- Creates the ability for parents who were not included in a prior adjudication or Paternity Acknowledgement to establish parentage.
- Creates a new framework for a victim of sexual assault to preclude the perpetrator from establishing parentage.
- Creates a statutory framework for establishing de facto parentage.

The following documents, some new and some updated, will be issued at the time of filing in order to implement the Act:

1. New notices to parties filing a *Petition to Decide Parentage based on Genetic Surrogacy* and a *Petition to Decide Parentage based on Gestational Surrogacy or Assisted Reproduction*;
2. An amended Parentage case schedule, which includes information about sexual assault allegations and steps a parent must take if they are filing to establish parentage because they were not included in a Paternity Acknowledgment or previous adjudication; and
3. A new case schedule for parties filing a *Petition for De Facto Parentage*

Access to parentage cases also changes due to the UPA. As of January 1, 2019, only the final order in the determination of parentage will be a publicly accessible document. All other records in the court file will require a court order or consent of the parties.

Local Family Law Rules changes are also in development and will be implemented likely in the first quarter of 2019.



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