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INFORMATION
YOU SHOULD
KNOW

**CHANGING YOUR
NAME AFTER A
DIVORCE**

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About 90 percent of women change their name when they get married, and a growing number of men change or hyphenate their name. When people get divorced, they often want their name changed back to their prior or maiden name.

Changing one's name used to be fairly easy—but in today's world, people can have various forms of identification and there is a widespread concern about national security and identity theft.

If you want to change your name when you divorce, you will need to obtain an Order to that effect. The Order will be used as proof that your name change is legal and will be given to the agencies that you request the change to be made.

Generally, you should begin by changing your name on your driver's license and your Social Security Card. Having a new name on these two cards can make it easier to change your name elsewhere.

You'll also want to change your name on your will, your healthcare powers of attorney, your powers of attorney and any important contracts.

Other places to contact:

Employer/school; post office; financial institutions (bank, brokerage, etc.); phone company; utilities (gas, electric, cable, etc.); insurance company; creditors/debtors; state income tax agency; passport office; the state department in charge of birth certificates; Veterans Benefits Administration.
