



INDEPENDENT ADOPTION CENTER

professional / licensed / nonprofit

To: All Clients of the Independent Adoption Center

From: Marcia Hodges, Interim Executive Director
Greg Kuhl, Board President

It is with deep sadness that we write to inform you that the Independent Adoption Center (IAC) is declaring Chapter 7 bankruptcy and will be closing permanently effective immediately. This was an extremely difficult decision to make, but after much discussion, we have come to the conclusion that immediate closure is our only option.

As you may be aware, the climate of adoption has changed in recent years. Societal changes have created an environment in the United States where there are fewer potential birth parents than at any other point in our 34-year history of helping to create families. Simultaneously, due to changing demographics and the closure of international adoption programs, there are more hopeful adoptive parents seeking to adopt domestically than in any other time in recent history.

The IAC has worked tirelessly to adapt to this changing environment, but the many efforts we implemented were ultimately unsuccessful. We therefore cannot sustain the agency any longer.

We recognize that the decision to pursue adoption is deeply personal and that you chose to pursue adoption with the assistance of the IAC after careful consideration. We remain honored that you trusted us to assist you in building your family, and we regret that the IAC was not able to maintain solvency in this new era of adoption.

The agency is filing for bankruptcy and the court will appoint a trustee to administer the bankruptcy estate. The court will notify you of the case, shortly after the bankruptcy is filed and you will have the opportunity to file a Proof of Claim for any refunds you believe are due to you. As everything will be under control of the trustee and the court, IAC will not be involved with determining how any remaining funds in the account are utilized.

A resource you may choose to contact is the Licensing office in your state. Here is a list for that contact information by state:

California

Saxon Turner, Department of Social Services
Saxon.Turner@dss.ca.gov; 408-324-2112

Vaishali Singh-Sood, Children's Residential, Licensing Program Analyst

Vaishali.Singh-Sood@dss.ca.gov; (408) 314-1046

Texas

Janine Easton

(832) 387-8854; Janine.Easton@dfps.state.tx.us

Indiana

Lisa Juday, MSW, Residential Licensing Consultant, Indiana Department of Child Services; 317-450-3814; Lisa.Juday@dcs.IN.gov

New York

Sarah Gabriels, Esq., Permanency Policy Analyst; New York State Office of Children and Family Services; 212.383.4713; sarah.gabriels@ocfs.ny.gov

Connecticut

Tom Cuchara (CT); Regulatory Consultant- DCF
860-550-6310; tom.cuchara@ct.gov

North Carolina

Dora Ann Carter, MSW, Social Services Program Consultant II; NC Division of Social Services, Child Welfare Section, DHHS; 919 496 0310; dora.carter@dhhs.nc.gov

Georgia

Katrina McAfee

katrina.mcafee@dhs.ga.gov; 404-321-6900

Florida

Betsie Cieslak

Bestie.cieslak@myflfamilies.com

Of course, you may choose to contact other adoption professionals. IAC has no control over fees they may charge. Here is a list of possibilities by state:

California

Mark Goldman

818-789-3477; markg@adopthelp.com; Encino, CA

Ami Sheth Sagel

949-534-2378; ami@supportiveadoptions.com; Newport Beach, CA

Celeste Liversidge

info@adoptionlawgroup.com; 626-774-5877; Pasadena, CA

Karin Stoeckenius & Holly Wotherspoon

Karin@adamsromer.com & Holly@adamsromer.com

Petaluma, CA and San Francisco, CA; 415-643-4523

Vista Del Mar

Lynne Baumhoff: lynnebaumhoff@vistadelmar.org; 310-836-1223 ext. 288

Adoption Connection

www.adoptionconnection.org; 451-851-3087

Texas

Adoption Advocates

(800) 966-4673

Family to Family

(281) 342-4042

Caring Adoptions

(281) 920-4300

Dave Cole (Dallas)

(214) 363-5117

Suzanne Bryant (Austin)

(512) 476-4760

Denise Hyde (Austin)

(512) 474-9911

Indiana

Herrin & Leach; Nate Leach; 317-566-2174

Nate@IndianaAdoptionLawyer.com

Kirsh & Kirsh; 800-333-5736

New York/Connecticut

Richard Warren; Warren & Warren, P.C.

185 Montague St, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Rebecca Mendel; Rosin Steinhagen Mendel

(212) 972-5430 ext. 28.; rmendel@lawrsm.com

Law Office of Brian Esser

540 President St, Brooklyn, NY 11215; (718) 747-8447

Nina Rumbold; Rumbold & Seidelman, LLP

116 Kraft Avenue, Suite 3, Bronxville, NY 10708

914.779.1050; info@adoptionlawny.com

Adoption Star
Amherst, NY 14228; 716-639-3900

The Gladney Center for Adoption
48 Wall Street 7th Floor; NY, NY 10005
(212) 868-3434

The Alliance for Children
58 West 58th Street, Suite 7-B; New York, NY 10019
(212) 751-4095

Spence-Chapin Adoption Services
410 E 92nd St, New York, NY 10128
(212) 369-0300

North Carolina

Bobby D. Mills
(919) 821-1860

Amy Wallas Fox
LGBTa.fox@adoptionattorneys.orgwww.ncbabylaw.com

Christopher M. Craig
828-258-2888

Georgia

William Turnipseed
404-521-1282

Sherry Neal
678-596-3207

Florida

Elizabeth Schwartz
liz@elizabethschwartz.com

Ellen Kaplan
ellenkaplanesq@aol.com

We cannot express in writing how sorry we are to be ending our relationship in this manner. It is our most sincere hope that this set back in your adoption path is brief and that your wish to build your family through adoption is achieved in the near future.