



THE ASHMORE LAW FIRM, P.C.

*Expertise. Experience. Excellence.*

# *Newlywed Name Change Guide in Texas*

*Changing your name can be a daunting task. Use our guide to make sure you don't miss any important items that need to be changed.*

## **Where to start?**

**Original Marriage License:** Order and make copies of your original Marriage License.

**Certified Copies of Marriage License:** Order a certified copy of your Marriage License as having this can assist with the name change process.

## **The Name Change Process**

### **1. Social Security:**

It is recommended that you take the completed [SS-5 form](#) to your local Social Security Office. Along with the form, make sure to take your original Marriage License, and a Photo ID, such as your Driver's license. There is no fee to complete this form.

You also have the option to mail the form along with your Original Marriage License. They will mail your original Marriage License back to you within two weeks and you should receive your new Social Security Card within a month.

### **2. Driver's License:**

To change your name on your driver's license, you must fill out the [Replacement Form](#) (also known as a duplicate) and pay the required [fee](#). If you want to change your name, you must:

- Visit any driver's license office within 30 days of the change,
- Bring your Replacement Form,
- Bring funds to pay the required [fee](#), and
- Provide your original Marriage License, as copies are not accepted.

### 3. Passport:

You can mail form [DS-82](#) to the National Passport Processing Center if you need to change your name on an existing passport that has been issued for more than one year. Along with the form, you will need to include:

- Your current passport,
- A certified copy of your marriage license,
- A check made out to “U.S. Department of State” to pay the [application fee](#), and
- A [recent color photo](#).

The certified copy of your Marriage License will be mailed back to you within two weeks and you should receive your new Passport within 4-6 weeks.

### 4. Bank Accounts:

Assemble all of your Banking and Financial Records and decide what needs to be changed. Most banks will require that you go to your local branch to process a change of name on your accounts. You will also need to reach out to each financial institution to find out what documentation they need. For example, if they will need an original, certified copy, or a regular copy of your Marriage License. You will also need to bring your driver’s license.

### 5. Estate Planning Documents (Last Will and Testament and Powers of Attorney) and Postmarital Agreements:

We recommend you reach out to a qualified attorney for your [Estate Planning Documents](#) and/or [Postmarital Agreement](#).

### 6. Other Documents:

For the following documents, it will be best to reach out directly to the company or institution that is in charge of each document.

- Mortgage/Lease
- Vehicle Registration and Title
- Debit and Credit Cards
- Loans, Investments, 401ks, IRAs
- Beneficiary Designations

*We hope that is guide is helpful as you go through the name change process. You can call our office for more information at 214-559-7202.*