

A Caretaker Authorization Affidavit may be created if a child is living with a grandparent who has made reasonable attempts to locate and contact both of the child's parents or the child's guardian or custodian but has been unable to do so.

A Caretaker Authorization Affidavit may not be executed if any of the following proceedings are pending regarding the child:

1. A proceeding for the appointment of a guardian for, or the adoption of the child.
2. A juvenile proceeding in which one of the following applies:
 - a. The temporary, permanent, or legal custody of the child or the placement of the child in a planned permanent living arrangement has been requested.
 - b. The child is the subject to an ex parte emergency custody order issued under division (D) of section 2151.31 of the Ohio Revised Code and no hearing has yet been held regarding the child under division (A) of section 2151.314.
 - c. The child is the subject of a temporary custody order issued under section 2151.33 of the Ohio Revised Code.
3. A proceeding for divorce, dissolution, legal separation, annulment or allocation of parental rights and responsibilities regarding the child.

NOTICE:

Please review the documents carefully before signing and filing with the Juvenile Court. It is a criminal offense to give false information or make a false representation to the court.

- The document must be notarized by an Ohio Notary Public.
- The document must be filed with the Juvenile Court in the County in which the grandparent/caretaker resides, or in any other court that has jurisdiction over the child under a previously filed motion or proceeding not later than five (5) days after the date it is executed.
- The grandparent/caretaker requesting this document must provide a photo ID at the time of the filing.
- There is no charge to file this document with the Court; however, you will be charged if you request additional file stamped copies to be made by the Court or to have it certified.
- The document is valid until terminated as set forth in the notices contained herein and pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code.
- **The deputy clerks are not lawyers and are not permitted to answer legal questions or give legal advice. If you have any questions regarding these forms, you should consult with an attorney.**

CARETAKER AUTHORIZATION AFFIDAVIT

Use of this affidavit is authorized by sections [3109.65](#) to [3109.73](#) of the Ohio Revised Code.

Completion of items 1-7 and the signing and notarization of this affidavit is sufficient to authorize the grandparent signing to exercise care, physical custody, and control of the child who is its subject, including authority to enroll the child in school, to discuss with the school district the child’s educational progress, to consent to all school-related matters regarding the child, and to consent to medical, psychological, or dental treatment for the child.

The child named below lives in my home, I am 18 years of age or older, and I am the child’s grandparent.

1. Name of Child: _____
2. Child’s date and year of birth: _____
3. Child’s social security number (optional): _____
4. My name: _____
5. My home address: _____
6. My date and year of birth: _____
7. My Ohio driver’s license number or identification card number: _____
8. Despite having made reasonable attempts, I am either (please circle one):
 - (a) Unable to locate or contact the child’s parents, or the child’s guardian or custodian; or
 - (b) I am unable to locate or contact one of the child’s parents and I am not required to contact the other parent because paternity has not been established; or
 - (c) I am unable to locate or contact one of the child’s parent and I am not required to contact the other parent because there is a custody order regarding the child and one of the following is the case:
 - (i) The parent has been prohibited from receiving notice of a relocation; or
 - (ii) The parental rights of the parent have been terminated.
9. I hereby certify that this affidavit is not being executed for the purpose of enrolling the child in a school or school district so that the child may participate in the academic or interscholastic athletic programs provided by that school or district.

I understand that this document does not authorize a child support enforcement agency to redirect child support payments. I further understand that to have an existing child support order modified or a new child support order issued administrative or judicial; proceedings must be initiated.

WARNING: DO NOT SIGN THIS FORM IF ANY OF THE ABOVE STATEMENTS ARE INCORRECT. FALSIFICATION IS A CRIME UNDER SECTION [2921.13](#) OF THE REVISED CODE, PUNISHABLE BY THE SANCTIONS UNDER CHAPTER 2929. OF THE REVISED CODE, INCLUDING A TERM OF IMPRISONMENT OF UP TO 6 MONTHS, A FINE OF UP TO \$1,000, OR BOTH.

I declare that the foregoing is true and correct:

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Grandparent

Subscribed, sworn to, and acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Notary Public

Notices:

1. The grandparent's signature must be notarized by an Ohio notary public.
2. The grandparent who executed this affidavit must file it with the juvenile court of the county in which the grandparent resides or any other court that has jurisdiction over the child under a previously filed motion or proceeding not later than five days after the date it is executed.
3. This affidavit does not affect the rights of the child's parents, guardian, or custodian regarding the care, physical custody, and control of the child, and does not give the grandparent legal custody of the child.
4. A person or entity that relies on this affidavit, in good faith, has no obligation to make any further inquiry or investigation.
5. This affidavit terminates on the occurrence of whichever of the following occurs first: (1) the child ceases to live with the grandparent who signs this form; (2) the parent, guardian, or custodian of the child acts to negate, reverse, or otherwise disapprove an action or decision of the grandparent who signed this affidavit, and the grandparent either voluntarily returns the child to the physical custody of the parent, guardian, or custodian or fails to file a complaint to seek custody within fourteen days; (3) the affidavit is terminated by court order; (4) the death of the child who is the subject of the affidavit; or (5) the death of the grandparent who executed the affidavit.

A parent, guardian, or custodian may negate, reverse, or disapprove a grand parent's action or decision only by delivering written notice of negation, reversal, or disapproval to the grandparent and the person acting on the grandparent's action or decision in reliance on this affidavit.

If this affidavit terminates other than by the death of the grandparent, the grandparent who signed this affidavit shall notify, in writing not later than one week after the affidavit terminates, all of the following:

- a) Any schools, health care providers, or health insurance coverage provider with which the child had been involved through the grandparent;
- b) Any other person or entity that has an ongoing relationship with the child or grandparent such that the person or entity would reasonably rely on the affidavit unless notified of the termination;
- c) The court in which the affidavit was filed after its creation;

6. The decision of a grandparent to consent to or to refuse medical treatment or school enrollment for a child is superseded by a contrary decision of a parent, custodian, or guardian of the child, unless the decision of the parent, guardian, or custodian would jeopardize the life, health, or safety of the child.

Additional information:

To caretakers:

1. If the child stops living with you, you are required to notify, in writing, any school, health care provider, or health care insurance provider to which you have given this affidavit. You are also required to notify, in writing, any other person or entity that has an ongoing relationship with you or the child such that the person or entity would reasonably rely on the affidavit unless notified. The notifications must be made not later than one week after the child stops living with you.
2. If you do not have the information requested in item 7 (Ohio driver's license or identification card), provide another form of identification such as your social security number or medicaid number.
3. You must include with the caretaker authorization affidavit the following information:
 - (a) The child's present address, the addresses of the places where the child has lived within the last five years, and the name and present address of each person with whom the child has lived during that period;
 - (b) Whether you have participated as a party, a witness, or in any other capacity in any other litigation, in this state or any other state, that concerned the allocation, between the parents of the same child, of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of the child and the designation of the residential parent and legal custodian of the child or that otherwise concerned the custody of the same child;
 - (c) Whether you have information of any parenting proceeding concerning the child pending in a court of this or any other state;
 - (d) Whether you know of any person who has physical custody of the child or claims to be a parent of the child who is designated the residential parent and legal custodian of the child or to have parenting time rights with respect to the child or to be a person other than a parent of the child who has custody or visitation rights with respect to the child;
 - (e) Whether you previously have been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any criminal offense involving any act that resulted in a child's being an abused child or a neglected child or previously have been determined, in a case in which a child has been adjudicated an abused child or a neglected child, to be the perpetrator of the abusive or neglectful act that was the basis of the adjudication.
4. If the child's parent, guardian, or custodian acts to terminate the caretaker authorization affidavit by delivering a written notice of negation, reversal, or disapproval of an action or decision of yours or removes the child from your home and if you believe that the termination or removal is not in the best interest of the child, you may, within fourteen days, file a complaint in the juvenile court to seek custody. You may retain physical custody of the child until the fourteen-day period elapses or, if you file a complaint, until the court orders otherwise.

To school officials:

1. This affidavit, properly completed and notarized, authorizes the child in question to attend school in the district in which the grandparent who signed this affidavit resides and the grandparent is authorized to provide consent in all school-related matters and to discuss with the school district

the child's educational progress. This affidavit does not preclude the parent, guardian, or custodian of the child from having access to all school records pertinent to the child.

2. The school district may require additional reasonable evidence that the grandparent lives at the address provided in item 5 of the affidavit.
3. A school district or school official that reasonably and in good faith relies on this affidavit has no obligation to make any further inquiry or investigation.
4. The act of a parent, guardian, or custodian of the child to negate, reverse, or otherwise disapprove an action or decision of the grandparent who signed this affidavit constitutes termination of this affidavit. A parent, guardian, or custodian may negate, reverse, or disapprove a grandparent's action or decision only by delivering written notice of negation, reversal, or disapproval to the grandparent and the person acting on the grandparent's action or decision in reliance on this affidavit.

To health care providers:

1. A person or entity that acts in good faith reliance on a CARETAKER AUTHORIZATION AFFIDAVIT to provide medical, psychological, or dental treatment, without actual knowledge of facts contrary to those stated in the affidavit, is not subject to criminal liability or to civil liability to any person or entity, and is not subject to professional disciplinary action, solely for such reliance if the applicable portions of the form are completed and the grandparent's signature is notarized.
2. The decision of a grandparent, based on a CARETAKER AUTHORIZATION AFFIDAVIT, shall be honored by a health care facility or practitioner or educational facility or school official unless the health care facility or practitioner or educational facility or official has actual knowledge that a parent, guardian, or custodian of a child has made a contravening decision to consent to or to refuse medical treatment for the child.
3. The act of a parent, guardian, or custodian of the child to negate, reverse, or otherwise disapprove an action or decision of the grandparent who signed this affidavit constitutes termination of this affidavit. A parent, guardian, or custodian may negate, reverse, or disapprove a grandparent's action or decision only by delivering written notice of negation, reversal, or disapproval to the grandparent and the person acting on the grandparent's action or decision in reliance on this affidavit.

JUVENILE COURT DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

CHILD'S INFORMATION:

Name _____

Child also known as _____

SSN: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Gender: _____ (optional) Race: _____ (optional)

Birth city: _____ Birth state: _____

BIOLOGICAL PARENT INFORMATION:

Mother's name: _____

Also known as: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ SSN: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Marital status: _____

Father's name: _____

Also known as: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ SSN: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Marital status: _____

GRANDPARENT INFORMATION:

Name: _____

Also known as: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ SSN: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Marital status: _____

Pursuant to ORC 3109.72, I hereby negate, reverse, or disapprove of action taken pursuant to a caretaker authorization affidavit, unless by doing so the life, health, or safety of the child would be jeopardized.

Signature of Parent, Guardian, or Custodian

Signature of Parent, Guardian, or Custodian

Date

Signature of Caretaker

NOTICES:

This act of negation, reversal, or disapproval terminated the caretaker authorization affidavit as of the date the caretaker returns the child to the parent, guardian, or custodian or upon the expiration of fourteen (14) days from the delivery of a written notice of the negation, reversal, or disapproval to the caretaker and to the person responding to the caretaker's action or decision in reliance on the affidavit.