

OFFICE RESEARCH HOURS 8:00 A.M. TO 4:15 P.M.
No advance registration is required.

APPLICATION FOR RECORD SEARCH

CHERYL A. MCBRIDE - REGISTER OF DEEDS
212 N 6TH ST. RM 1400, LACROSSE, WI 54601
(608) 785-9644

SIGNATURE & APPLICATION VALID UNTIL DECEMBER 31, _____

(Please print legibly)

NAME: (I.D.required) _____

I.D. PRESENTED _____ **Staff Initials** _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PURPOSE OF THIS SEARCH: (check which is applicable)

____ Professional Genealogy Research

____ Medical Study Research

____ Personal Genealogy Research

____ Other (Provide Explanation)

I REQUEST AN ORIENTATION:

_____ **YES** _____ **NO**

I REQUEST A STAFF ASSISTED SEARCH:

_____ **YES** _____ **NO**

REQUEST FOR ACCESS TO VITAL RECORDS _____ **BIRTH** _____ **DEATH** _____ **MARRIAGE**

Access is limited to no more than four users in the vital records vault at one time. See back of this request for complete details. This office reserves the right to change the number of people allowed to research and hours available.

FAMILY SURNAME(S)

APPROXIMATE DATES

(add additional entries on a separate sheet of paper)

For your own protection and to avoid suspicion all sweaters, coats, purses, cell phones, bags, binders, folders and briefcases must be either left by the coat rack or by a staff member's desk. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO INSPECT ALL ITEMS brought in by you and used by you while you perform research. Children under 12 are not allowed in the records area. This office will not be liable for any lost or stolen items.

I have read the Vital Statistics regulations and the office rules contained on the back of this request and agree to abide by them. I understand that failure to comply with these regulations and rules will result in the application of the penalties prescribed in the regulations.

SIGNATURE _____ **DATE** _____

THIS APPLICATION FORM IS NOT OPEN TO PUBLIC INSPECTION.

1. OFFICE POLICY FOR VITAL RECORDS RESEARCHERS:

- a. Four people are allowed in the research area at one time. This number will be determined by staff, based on work surface availability.
- b. This office reserves the right to change the number of people allowed to research and the hours available for research.
- c. Employee assistance is available between 8:00 a.m. and 4:15 p.m., depending on staff availability and workload.
- d. Register of Deeds staff has first priority use of all indexes and records to conduct their daily business.
- e. You assume all responsibility for conforming with the laws of library and literacy property rights which may be involved in your use of the vital record.
- f. Statute or administrative rule restricts the use of certain records and indexes. See 2j below. This office reserves the right to restrict access to records which are confidential or contain confidential information.

2. STATUTE OR ADMINISTRATIVE RULE 142 STATE USERS OF VITAL RECORDS MUST DO THE FOLLOWING:

- a. All researchers must complete an "Application for Records Search" form prior to their first entry to research area for the current calendar year. This form will be kept on file and will expire on December 31st of the 5th year after you have registered. Researchers must complete a new form every 5 years.
- b. Once you have registered, you must sign in each time before you enter research area and indicate family name(s) being searched.
- c. Present satisfactory proof of identity to the registrar.
- d. Only pencils may be used. The following are not allowed in the records area:
 - ❖ Pens and markers
 - ❖ Binders and folders
 - ❖ Private copy machines, scanners, cell phones or cameras
 - ❖ Coats, purses, briefcases or bags
- e. No smoking, eating, or drinking.
- f. Refrain from loud talking, laughing and noise making.
- g. Make use of paper records only as a last resort to find specific records, use other alternatives first. (Not including indexes)
- h. Must not ask staff to perform tasks that are contrary to statute or administrative rule.
- i. Must handle all records carefully. They must not be written on, marked, altered, leaned upon, bent, torn, mutilated or destroyed.
 - ❖ Work with one book at a time.
 - ❖ DO NOT pile open books on top of each other.
 - ❖ DO NOT MARK or WRITE on any record or in any index.
 - ❖ DO NOT place your work sheet on top of an open index or volume as pressure marks of the pencil will go through onto the record.
 - ❖ RETURN each book to its proper place as you finish.
 - ❖ DO NOT remove pages from books.
- j. May not examine or try to examine the original paper records that are not available in the volumes unless assisted by a staff member.
- k. Observe office specific rules for the use of books & records.
 - ❖ When using vital records please do not stand in the aisles, please take your work over to the counter area.
 - ❖ Since space is limited, be cooperative in sharing indexes, workspace, and staff assisted time with others.

USERS THAT VIOLATE OFFICE RULES WILL BE GIVEN ONE VERBAL WARNING, IF VIOLATION CONTINUES USER WILL IMMEDIATELY BE EXPELLED FROM THE OFFICE AND WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO RETURN FOR 2 MONTHS. A SECOND VIOLATION WITHIN A YEAR WILL RESULT IN EXPULSION FROM THE OFFICE FOR 6 MONTHS. A THIRD VIOLATION WITHIN A YEAR WILL RESULT IN EXPULSION FOR 6 MONTHS AND A NOTICE OF THIS VIOLATION WILL BE SENT TO THE VITAL RECORDS OFFICES THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

PENALTIES

Up to \$10,000 and 2 years imprisonment; mutilating or destroying an original vital record. Up to \$1,000 and 90 days imprisonment; willfully and knowingly neglecting, violating, or refusing to comply with requirements of this subchapter.

See Chap.69, WI Stat. & Chapter DHS 142 for complete rules.

Note: A statewide vital records law went into effect June 1, 1907; Vital Records were not required to be filed before that time.