

Checklist

Name Change & Change of Address

In California, women may keep their maiden name or opt to change their name to that of their new husband. Either choice is truly acceptable in California. Some things to think of in making this decision is that if you plan to have children, having different last name from your children can be cumbersome in situations like school and some travel.

If you change your name, be proactive and get all of the paper work completed so that having your old name pop up doesn't put you in a bad situation. For example, if you book a flight in your maiden name but your driver's license is in your married name, you will not be getting on that plane! To be safe, it is best to book your honeymoon flight in your maiden name, since you cannot change your name legally until AFTER the wedding.

When changing your name, you will want to contact each of the entities noted below and ask for the appropriate paperwork and information on the required process. While doing this, you should take care of any address change at the same time to save yourself a step.

- Social Security Card
- Passport
- Bank accounts
- Investment accounts
- Voter registration
- Property titles (car, house)
- Insurance, car, house, health, life
- Car registration
- Driver's license
- Doctor office
- Dentist office
- Place of business
- Credit cards
- Credit reporting agencies (3)
- IRS
- CA income tax
- Legal documents (will, trust, etc)
- Memberships
- Post office