



OREGON JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT  
Office of the State Court Administrator

December 22, 2025

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Jordan Bates, Senior Assistant General Counsel  
Oregon Judicial Department

Sam Dupree, Senior Assistant General Counsel  
Oregon Judicial Department

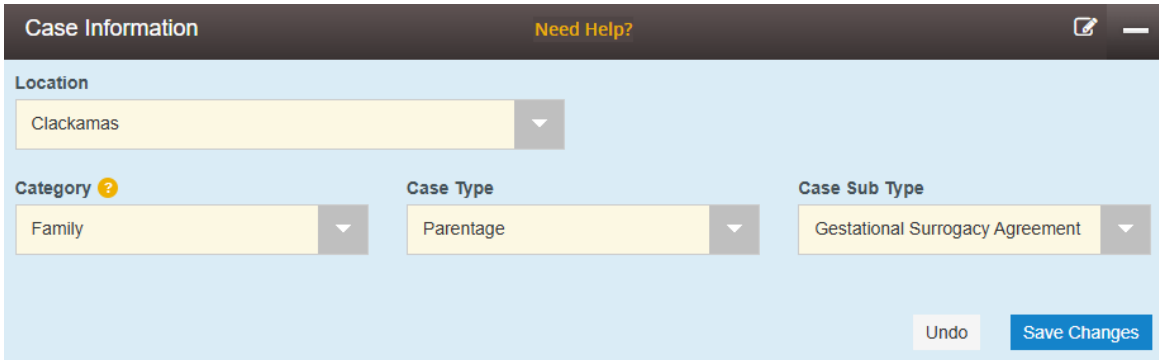
RE: Electronic filing changes for Gestational Surrogacy Agreement cases,  
effective January 1, 2026

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[Senate Bill 163](#), which modifies Oregon's parentage laws by incorporating provisions of the Uniform Parentage Act, goes into effect on January 1, 2026. The changes include replacing the term "filiation" with "parentage" and requiring courts to seal petitions and other documents filed with courts that are related to gestational surrogacy agreements.

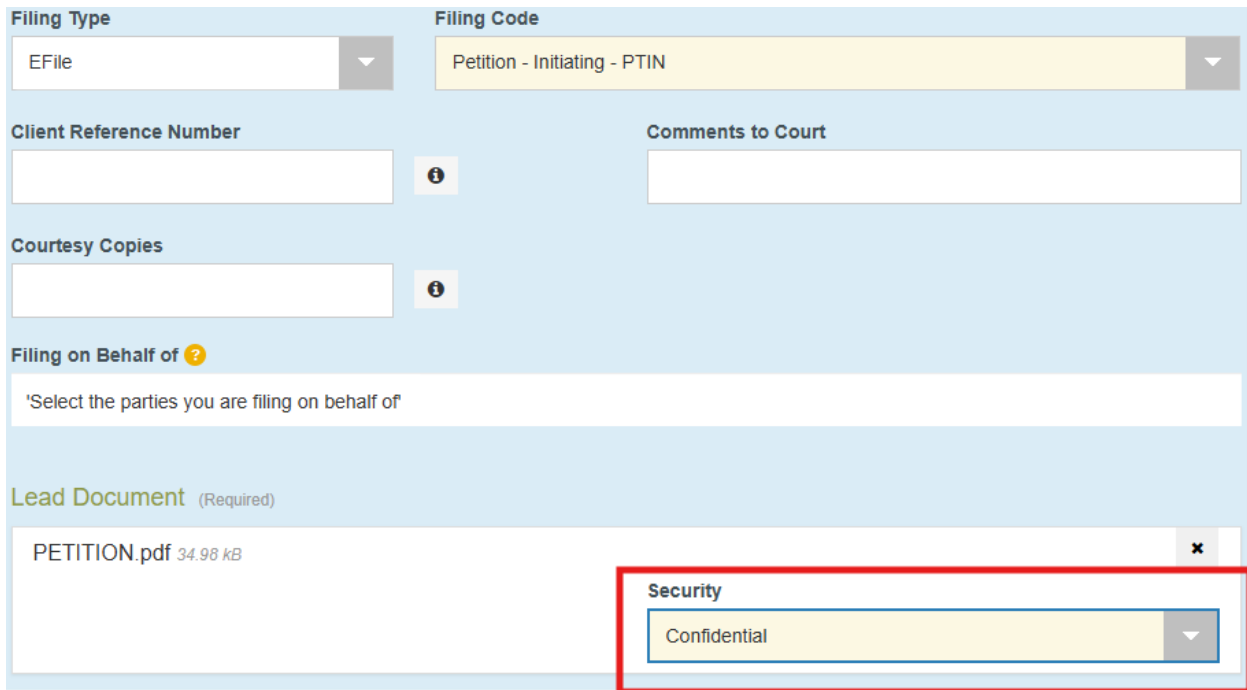
To ensure surrogacy-related documents are protected, the Oregon Judicial Department has created a new electronic filing process to allow court staff to identify these documents. When filing a parentage case involving a surrogacy agreement with a circuit court, please select the **Parentage** case type, then select the **Gestational Surrogacy Agreement** case subtype (see screenshot below). This will flag the case for court staff.

These documents were previously filed as Declaratory Judgments when establishing parentage in surrogacy cases. Starting on January 1, 2026, they should be submitted as Petitions to Establish or Adjudicate Parentage using the **Petition – Initiating – PTIN** filing code, the Parentage case type, and the Gestational Surrogacy Agreement subtype as noted above so court staff can easily identify them as confidential documents.



The screenshot shows a 'Case Information' form with a dark header bar containing 'Case Information' and 'Need Help?' with a help icon. Below the header, there are several dropdown menus: 'Location' (Clackamas), 'Category' (Family), 'Case Type' (Parentage), and 'Case Sub Type' (Gestational Surrogacy Agreement). At the bottom right, there are 'Undo' and 'Save Changes' buttons.

In addition, please mark the documents you submit as **Confidential** using the Security dropdown (see screenshot below). This will ensure the documents are not available to the public. Court staff will review the envelope to ensure the proper “Security” is chosen.



The screenshot shows the 'Filing Type' section with 'EFile' selected and 'Filing Code' with 'Petition - Initiating - PTIN' selected. Below these are input fields for 'Client Reference Number', 'Comments to Court', and 'Courtesy Copies', each with an information icon. The 'Filing on Behalf of' section has a placeholder text: 'Select the parties you are filing on behalf of'. The 'Lead Document' section is labeled '(Required)' and shows a document named 'PETITION.pdf' (34.98 kB). A red box highlights the 'Security' dropdown menu, which is currently set to 'Confidential'.

Please reach out to us if you have any questions:

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