



ESKEW LAW

INDIANA PATERNITY MATTER TIMELINE

Step-by-Step Overview

How to go through the process of establishing **paternity** in Indiana



1 File Petition to Establish Paternity

A paternity case begins when the **petitioning party** files a **Petition to Establish Paternity** with the court.



2 Service of Process on Opposing Party

The filed petition must be formally served on the **other parent**, giving legal notice of the paternity action.



3 Discovery

Both parties **exchange information** to gather evidence and ensure transparency. This may include:

- Requests for production of documents
- Exchange of financial declaration forms
- Depositions
- Non-party requests for documents



4 Provisional Hearing or Agreement (If Applicable)

Temporary orders may be put in place to address issues such as:

- **Temporary child support.**
- **Custody and parenting time** while the case is pending.
- This can occur before Discovery is issued or completed.



5 Negotiation, Mediation, or Alternative Dispute Resolution

Many Indiana paternity cases are resolved without trial through:

- **Negotiation** between attorneys
- **Court-ordered** or voluntary mediation
- Other alternative dispute resolution methods



7 Settlement or Trial

If an agreement is reached, **terms** are submitted to the **court**.
If no agreement is reached, the case proceeds to **trial** for judge to decide.

Questions About Paternity Cases in Indiana?

Every case is unique. An experienced family law attorney can guide you through the process and help protect your rights.

[Schedule a Consultation](#)