

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can safely surrender a baby?

How does someone safely surrender a baby?

Is this process confidential?

What if a parent/guardian changes his/her mind?

What happens to safely surrendered infants?

Surrendering an infant

A parent or person with legal custody who is unable or unwilling to care for the infant can *legally, confidentially, and safely* surrender their baby that is 72 hours old or younger (three days old). All that is required is that the baby be brought to a designated fire station or hospital.

- A bracelet will be placed on the baby for identification. A matching bracelet will be given to the parent/legal custodian.
- The bracelets (baby and parent/legal custodian) are needed in order for the reclaiming of the infant.
- A parent/legal custodian *does not* need to call a designated surrender site before delivering the infant.
- The infant needs to be physically delivered to emergency personnel (fire department or hospital) at a **designated site**.
- A parent or person with legal custody can deliver the infant anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to a **designated site**.
- The parent/legal custodian is not required to provide any information when surrendering an infant at a designated site.
- Emergency personnel are required to give the parent/legal custodian a medical questionnaire that is designed to gather family medical history, but it is the parent's/legal custodian's choice to complete it.
- Once the infant has been surrendered, the infant will be examined and given medical treatment at an appropriate facility, if needed.
- Once the parent/legal custodian has safely surrendered the infant, they are free to go.

After an infant has been surrendered

- Under the Safely Surrendered Baby Law, a parent/legal custodian has up to 14 days to reclaim the baby.
- The parent/legal custodian may take the bracelet back to the safe surrender site to initiate the reclaiming process of the baby.