

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
FAMILY LAW DIVISION**

**IN RE: THE MATTER OF THE TERMINATION
OF PARENTAL RIGHTS FOR THE PROPOSED
ADOPTION OF A MINOR CHILD BY STEPPARENT:**

**CASE NO.: 26-DR-011349
DIVISION: E**

**KLIM ALEXANDER ZALENSKI
DOB: APRIL 27, 2020**

**NOTICE OF ACTION, NOTICE OF PETITION, AND NOTICE OF
HEARING TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS PENDING ADOPTION**

TO: ARTEM VIACHESLAVOVYCH OSTAPENKO
Last Known Address:
Sweden
Height: 6'2", Weight: 150 lbs.
Hair Color: Brown, Eye Color: Brown

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Termination of Parental Rights Pursuant to an Adoption has been filed, and you are required to serve a copy of your written response, if any, to Mary G. McDermott, Esq., 710 Oakfield Drive, Suite 254, Brandon, Florida 33511, Petitioner's attorney, on or before October 16, 2026 and file your original response with the Clerk of this court, at the address below, before service on Petitioner's attorney or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

Clerk of The Court
800 E. Twiggs Street
Tampa, Florida 33602

**NOTICE OF PETITION AND HEARING
TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS
PENDING ADOPTION**

A petition to terminate parental rights pending adoption has been filed. A copy of the petition is being served with this notice. There will be a hearing on the petition to terminate parental rights pending adoption which will take place on December 17, 2026, at 11:00 A.M., in front of the Honorable Michael J. Hooi, Circuit Judge, of the Hillsborough County Courthouse, via ZOOM, <https://zoom.us/j/9171020630>. Meeting ID 917 102 0630. The ZOOM App is available for free for IOS and Android devices, and it may also be accessed via desktop computer. No account or fee is required. Please visit the ZOOM Help Center at <https://support.zoom.us> to familiarize yourself with the service. If you are unable to use the ZOOM link, to appear telephonically, you may call (305) 224-1968 and enter the ZOOM

Meeting ID of 917 102 0630 when prompted.

UNDER SECTION 63.089, FLORIDA STATUTES, FAILURE TO TIMELY FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THIS NOTICE AND THE PETITION WITH THE COURT AND TO APPEAR AT THIS HEARING CONSTITUTES GROUNDS UPON WHICH THE COURT SHALL END ANY PARENTAL RIGHTS YOU MAY HAVE OR ASSERT REGARDING THE MINOR CHILD.

PARA TRADUCCION DE ESTE FORMULARIO AL ESPANOL LLAME A LA OFICINA DE INTERPRETES DE LA CORTE, AL 813-272-5947 DE LUNES A VIERNES DE 3:00 P.M. Y 5:00 P.M.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provisions of certain assistance. Please contact the Clerk of Circuit Court, Circuit Civil Division, Hillsborough County Courthouse, 800 E. Twiggs Street, Tampa, Florida 33602, Telephone No.813-276-8100, within 2 workings days of your receipt of this document; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court on this 10th day of September 2026.



VICTOR CRIST
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

BY: Yazmin Soto ; Yazmin Soto
Deputy Clerk

LaGaceta Newspaper - Hillsborough County, Florida
Global Legal Notices - ProcessNet1.com

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY
FAMILY LAW DIVISION**

**IN RE: THE MATTER OF THE TERMINATION OF
PARENTAL RIGHTS FOR THE PROPOSED ADOPTION
OF A MINOR CHILD BY STEPPARENT:**

**KLIM ALEXANDER ZALENSKI
DOB: APRIL 27, 2020**

**CASE NO: 26-DR-011349
DIVISION: E**

**NOTICE OF PETITION AND HEARING
TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS PENDING ADOPTION**

A petition to terminate parental rights pending adoption has been filed. There will be a hearing on **THE VERIFIED PETITION IN THE MATTER OF THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS FOR THE PROPOSED ADOPTION OF A MINOR CHILD BY STEPPARENT** on Thursday, December 17, 2026 at 11:00 AM before the Honorable Michael J. Hooi, Circuit Judge, of the Hillsborough County Courthouse, 800 E. Twiggs St., Courtroom 413, Tampa, Florida 33602. The court has set aside 15 minutes for this hearing.

This hearing will be conducted via **ZOOM**.

Counsel and the parties (if the parties elect or are otherwise required to attend) shall appear by utilizing the Court's Zoom Link at <https://zoom.us/j/9171020630>. The Zoom Meeting ID is 917 102 0630. The Zoom App is available for free for IOS and Android devices, and it may also be accessed via desktop computer. No account or fee is required. Please visit the Zoom Help Center at <https://support.zoom.us> to familiarize yourself with the service. If you are unable to use the Zoom link, to appear telephonically, you may call (305) 224-1968 and enter Zoom Meeting ID of 917 102 0630 when prompted.

UNDER SECTION 63.089, FLORIDA STATUTES, FAILURE TO TIMELY FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THIS NOTICE AND THE PETITION WITH THE COURT AND TO APPEAR AT THIS HEARING CONSTITUTES GROUNDS UPON WHICH THE COURT SHALL END ANY PARENTAL RIGHTS YOU MAY HAVE OR ASSERT REGARDING THE MINOR CHILD.

PLEASE GOVERN YOURSELF ACCORDINGLY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that a copy of this document was electronically filed through the Florida E-filing Portal and via process server/publication to the persons listed below on September 3, 2026.

Artem Viacheslavovych Ostapenko
ADDRESS UNKNOWN



Mary Greenwood (Sep 2, 2026 12:19:37 EDT)

Mary G. McDermott, Esq.
Brandon Family Law Center, LLC
710 Oakfield Drive, Suite 254
Brandon, FL 33511
Telephone: (813) 653-1744
Fax: (813) 654-6830
E-mail: mary@brandonfamilylaw.com
lori@brandonfamilylaw.com
service@brandonfamilylaw.com
Fla. Bar No.: 612456
Attorney for Petitioners

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
FAMILY LAW DIVISION**

**IN RE: THE MATTER OF THE TERMINATION
OF PARENTAL RIGHTS FOR THE PROPOSED
ADOPTION OF A MINOR CHILD BY STEPPARENT:**

**KLIM ALEXANDER ZALENSKI
DOB: APRIL 27, 2020**

**CASE NO.: 26-DR
DIVISION:**

**VERIFIED PETITION IN THE MATTER OF THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL
RIGHTS FOR THE PROPOSED ADOPTION OF A MINOR CHILD BY RELATIVE**

Petitioner, ALEXANDER JOHN ZALENSKI, joined by his spouse, ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA, files this Verified Petition In The Matter of the Termination of Parental Rights For the Proposed Adoption of a Minor Child By Relative, seeking to adopt a male child born April 27, 2020 in Kupiansk City, Kharkiv Region, Ukraine, and alleges as follows:

1. This is an action for the step-parent adoption of a minor.
2. This Court has jurisdiction over these parties and over the subject of these proceedings. Venue of these proceedings is proper in Hillsborough County, Florida. This case is filed in the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Hillsborough County, Florida, in the Family Division of said court. The Clerk of the Circuit Court's telephone number is (813) 276-8100. The Clerk of Court's address is 800 E. Twiggs Street, Tampa, Florida 33602. The Adoption Entity's place of business is located in Hillsborough County, Florida.
3. Petitioners state that the subject child, KLIM ARTEMOVYCH OSTAPENKO, was born in Kupiansk City, Kharkiv Region, Ukraine on April 27, 2020. He is the natural child of Petitioner's spouse, ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA, who joins in this Petition to give her consent to this adoption. In her consent for adoption of the minor child by her spouse, ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA grants her permission for the Adoption Entity to file this petition, terminating the rights of the biological father, and initiating adoption proceedings for the minor child by her spouse. Also within this consent,

ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA chose NOT to use her own witness. Her consent is attached to this Petition as Exhibit "A". The child's birth certificate will be filed separately.

4. The Petitioners were married to each other on May 4, 2024 in Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, District of Suffolk, County of Suffolk, United Kingdom. A copy of their marriage license will be filed separately. Petitioner, ALEXANDER JOHN ZALENSKI, is a contractor for the U.S. Government. He and his spouse, ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA, currently reside in Ditzingent, Germany, but their home of record is in Tampa, Florida.

5. The parent-child bond between this minor child and the Petitioner, ALEXANDER JOHN ZALENSKI, is already very strong. Petitioner wishes to adopt the child because he would like to legally establish the parent-child relationship already existing between them. Since prior to their marriage, Petitioner has been able to provide adequately for the material needs of this child and he is able to continue doing so in the future.

6. The child has resided in the care and custody of Petitioner and his spouse since May of 2024. A complete Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) Affidavit will be filed separately.

7. The biological mother executed an affidavit attesting to all information she knew concerning the father. In the Affidavit the birth mother identified ARTEM VIACHESLAVOVYCH OSTAPENKO as the father of this child. See Affidavit of Knowledge of Birth Father Identity attached as Exhibit "B".

8. The whereabouts of ARTEM VIACHESLAVOVYCH OSTAPENKO remain unknown since he fled Ukraine at the start of the Russian invasion in 2022. He is believed to have fled to Denmark or Sweden. If he can be located, he will be personally served as required by Florida law. If he cannot be located, he will be served by process of publication, as permitted and required by law.

9. Petitioner has applied for a certificate through the State of Florida Department of Health Putative Father Registry verifying that there is no person who has made a claim for paternity of this child, as of the date of filing the Petition. This certificate will be filed with the court. Pursuant to Florida

Statute 63.062(3)(b), the attorney requests that the court declare the diligent search to be in compliance with Section 63.088 Fla. Stat., that the adoption entity has no further obligation to provide notice to any unknown unmarried putative father, and that any unknown, unmarried, putative father's consent to the adoption is not required and will be waived.

10. There is no other unmarried biological father who has complied with the requirements of Section 63.062(2)(b), and therefore, no consent from any unknown putative biological father is required by law. More specifically, no other unmarried biological father has filed a notarized Claim of Paternity for the child with the State of Florida Department of Health Putative Father Registry. Furthermore, no other unmarried biological father has filed a notarized statement with this court stating his intention to assume responsibility for financial support of this child, including a specific plan for how he will care for the child. No other unmarried biological father has made a contribution toward the payment of living or medical expenses for the child, nor demonstrated a full commitment to the responsibilities of parenthood for the child.

11. After this adoption, the full name by which said child shall become known is KLIM ALEXANDER ZALENSKI.

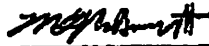
12. Petitioner ALEXANDER JOHN ZALENSKI and Petitioner ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA have the facilities and resources to provide for the care of the minor child to be adopted, and have been so caring for him since prior to their marriage, without assistance.

13. The adoptee does not own any property, nor is there any financial motive for this adoption. Rather, Petitioner desires to adopt the child in order to unify their family, and to formalize the close parent/child bond which has already developed between him and this child, and because such adoption will be in the best interest of the child.

14. This Petition is filed in good faith, with the best interests of the child as the only consideration, and the foregoing facts are true and correct to the best knowledge and belief of the Petitioners.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner, ALEXANDER JOHN ZALENSKI, joined by his spouse, ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA, prays for an order specifically approving the Petition for Step Parent Adoption and for a Final Judgment of Adoption establishing him to be the legal parent of this child.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brandon Family Law Center, LLC.



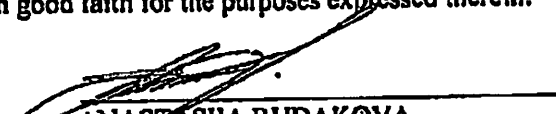
Mary Greenwood (Aug 31, 2026 11:30:33 EDT)

By:

Mary G. McDermott, Esq.
Florida Bar No.: 612456
710 Oakfield Drive, Suite 254
Brandon, FL 33511
Telephone: 813-653-1744
Facsimile: 813-654-6830
Email: mary@brandonfamilylaw.com
lori@brandonfamilylaw.com
service@brandonfamilylaw.com
Adoption Entity and Counsel for Petitioners

VERIFICATION

I/We HEREBY SWEAR UNDER OATH that the facts alleged herein are true to the best of my knowledge, and that we are filing this petition in good faith for the purposes expressed therein.


ALEXANDER JOHN ZALENSKI
ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, personally appeared ALEXANDER JOHN ZALENSKI who, after being duly sworn, deposes and says that he represents that he is a Petitioner in the above-styled cause, that he has read the foregoing Verified Petition for Adoption, knows the contents and understands them, and states that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of his information and belief. Petitioner, ALEXANDER JOHN ZALENSKI is personally known to me or has produced FL ID as identification and did (did not) take an oath.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me this 31st day of August, 2026.



NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF FLORIDA AT LARGE

Commission No.:

My Commission expires:



STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, personally appeared ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA, who, after being duly sworn, deposes and says that she represents that she is a Petitioner in the above-styled cause, that she has read the foregoing Verified Petition for Adoption, knows the contents and understands them, and states that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of her information and belief. Petitioner, ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA, is personally known to me or has produced MTL ID as identification and did (did not) take an oath.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me this 31st day of August 2026.

Lori Lynn Bukaweski

NOTARY PUBLIC

Commission No.:

My Commission expires:



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
FAMILY LAW DIVISION

IN RE: THE MATTER OF THE TERMINATION
OF PARENTAL RIGHTS PURSUANT TO THE
PROPOSED ADOPTION OF A MINOR CHILD
BY STEPPARENT:

KLIM ALEXANDER ZALENSKI
DOB: APRIL 27, 2020

CASE NO.: 26-DR
DIVISION: _____

MOTHER'S CONSENT FOR STEP-PARENT ADOPTION

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

Before me this day personally appeared ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA who being duly sworn, deposes and says:

I, the undersigned mother of a male child known as KLIM ARTEMOVYCH OSTAPENKO, born the 27th day of April, 2020 in Kupiansk City, Kharkiv Region, Ukrain, do hereby agree to consent to the adoption of this child by my spouse, ALEXANDER JOHN ZALENSKI. I do not relinquish my parental rights to this child, but I understand that the parental rights of the biological father of this child will be terminated, and that my spouse will assume all of the same parental rights to this child as I now enjoy, if a Court of competent jurisdiction should approve.

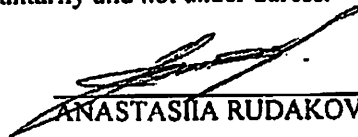
I do hereby grant my permission for the Adoption Entity to file the joint petition terminating the parental rights of the biological father, and initiating adoption proceedings for the minor child by my spouse, ALEXANDER JOHN ZALENSKI. I understand that if I wish to revoke my consent, I must notify the adoption entity by writing a letter that I wish to withdraw such consent. This letter must be sent by certified U.S. Mail, return receipt requested, not later than three (3) business days after I have signed this consent. Mary G. McDermott, Esq. of the Brandon Family Law Center, LLC, is the adoption entity and is located at 710 Oakfield Drive, Suite 254, Brandon, Florida 33511 and has a telephone number of (813) 653-1744.

I understand that I have a right to choose a person who does not have an employment, professional or personal relationship with the Adoption Entity or the prospective adoptive parent to be present when this affidavit of consent is executed and to sign it as a witness. I indicate my preference by placing my initials next to my choice below:

_____ I have selected _____ to act as my impartial witness

☒ or
☐ I choose not to have such a witness.

That this Consent is executed freely and voluntarily and not under duress.


ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of:

[Signature]
Witness Name:
Home or Work Address:
710 Oakfield Dr. Ste. 254
Brandon, FL 33511

[Signature]
Witness Name: Karen Howe
Home or Work Address:
710 Oakfield Dr. Ste. 254
Brandon, FL 33511

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this day before me, an officer duly authorized in the state aforesaid ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA, who is personally known to me or who has produced MIL ID as identification and who did (did not) take an oath, and who executed the foregoing Consent for Adoption, and acknowledged before me that she did so voluntarily and without duress.

WITNESS my hand and official seal in the county and state last aforesaid this 31st day of August, 2026.



[Signature]
NOTARY PUBLIC
Commission No.:
My Commission Expires:

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have received a true copy of this consent for my records, from Mary G. McDermott, Esq., on this 31 day of August, 2026.

[Signature]
ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA

TIME: 10:48am

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
FAMILY LAW DIVISION**

**IN RE: THE MATTER OF THE TERMINATION
OF PARENTAL RIGHTS FOR THE PROPOSED
ADOPTION OF A MINOR CHILD BY STEPPARENT:**

**CASE NO: 26-
DIVISION:**

**KLIM ALEXANDER ZALENSKI
DOB: APRIL 27, 2020**

MOTHER'S AFFIDAVIT AS TO BIRTH FATHER IDENTITY

Before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA, being sworn, deposes and states as follows:

1. I am the mother of a male child named KLIM ARTEMOVYCH OSTAPENKO, born on April 27, 2020, in Kupiansk City, Kharkiv Region, Ukraine.
2. I hereby swear that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the biological father of this child is a man known to me as ARTEM VIACHESLAVOVYCH OSTAPENKO, whose date of birth is September 8, 1990, who is 35 years old, and whose last known residence may possibly be in Denmark or Sweden.
3. ARTEM VIACHESLAVOVYCH OSTAPENKO has had no contact with the minor child since 2022 when he fled Ukraine upon the start of the Russian invasion. We were cohabitating when the minor child known as KLIM ARTEMOVYCH OSTAPENKO was conceived AND when the child was born. We stopped cohabitating in January of 2022.
4. I am currently married to the Petitioner, ALEXANDER JOHN ZALENSKI. We were married on May 4, 2024 in Bury St. Edmunds, District of Suffolk, County of Suffolk, United Kingdom.
5. The minor is not the biological father's child by adoption.
6. ARTEM VIACHESLAVOVYCH OSTAPENKO and I were NOT married, but were cohabitating at the time of the conception and birth of the minor child.
7. I know from my personal knowledge that the birth father is not a member of the Armed forces of the United States or the U.S. Public Health Service, within the meaning of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act of 2003, as amended.
8. To the best of my knowledge no man has acknowledged in writing, signed in the presence of a competent witness, that he is the father of the child, and filed such acknowledgment with the vital statistics office of the Department of Children and

Families.

- 9 ARTEM VIACHESLAVOVYCH OSTAPENKO IS listed as the father on the birth certificate for this child.
10. I have received no emotional support from the biological father.
11. No man, other than my current husband (the Petitioner), has developed a substantial relationship with this child, and/or taken any measure of responsibility for this child or her future, or demonstrated any commitment to the responsibilities of parenthood by providing me with any financial support in accordance with his ability.
12. No man has attempted to visit with this child, or communicated with me directly or through any agency or third party on my behalf, concerning the welfare of this child.
13. I have not participated as a party, nor do I have information of any other custody proceeding concerning the child pending in a court of this or any other state or country. Also, I do not know of any person not a party to these adoption proceedings who has physical custody of the child, claims to have custody or visitation rights with respect to the child, or who has informed me of their intention to seek such rights as to this child.
14. I understand that there are penalties for false statements of paternity and/or concealing the identity of a known birth father. I understand that a person who knowingly and willfully makes a false statement regarding paternity of a child in conjunction with a petition to terminate parental rights under Florida law, and who causes such false statement to be filed with the court, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided by law, and that a person who makes a statement claiming paternity in good faith is immune from criminal liability.

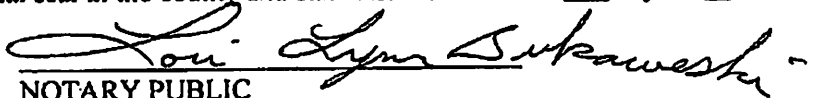
FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.


ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this day before me, an officer duly authorized to take acknowledgment, personally appeared ANASTASIIA RUDAKOVA who is known to me or who has produced mtc ID as identification and who did (did not) take an oath, and who acknowledged before me that she executed the foregoing affidavit freely, voluntarily, and without duress.

WITNESS my hand and official seal in the county and state last aforesaid this 31ST day of Aug., 2026.

(Notarial Seal)


NOTARY PUBLIC
Commission No.:
My Commission Expires:

