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Florida marriage license applications changed to 'spouse' and 'spouse'



Starting Monday, marriage licenses in Florida will contain the words "spouse" and "spouse" rather than "husband" and "wife" The change reflects the legalization of same-sex marriage.

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**TALLAHASSEE** -- To recognize the legalization of same-sex marriage, Florida marriage certificates and license applications were changed Monday to read "spouse" and "spouse" rather than "bride" and "groom."

Same-sex marriage has been legal in Florida since Jan. 6, and nationwide since a U.S. Supreme Court decision in June.

There is still a pending challenge to the content on Florida birth certificates. The state says that when a woman is married to another woman and gives birth, only her name is listed on the newborn's birth certificate.

Three married same-sex couples filed a lawsuit against the state last month seeking to get the policy change. The suit claims the couples were denied the "privacy, dignity, security, support and protections that are provided to married opposite-sex couples and their children."

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