# WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §48-22-302

**§48-22-302. Timing and execution of consent or relinquishment.**

(a) No consent or relinquishment may be executed before the expiration of seventy-two hours after the birth of the child to be adopted.

(b) A consent or relinquishment executed by a parent or guardian as required by the provisions of section 22-301 must be signed and acknowledged in the presence of one of the following:

(1) A judge of a court of record;

(2) A person whom a judge of a court of record designates to take consents or relinquishments;

(3) A notary public;

(4) A commissioned officer on active duty in the military service of the United States, if the person executing the consent or relinquishment is in military service; or

(5) An officer of the foreign service or a consular officer of the United States in another country, if the person executing the consent or relinquishment is in that country.

WV Legislature