

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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BOB TAFT
Governor

J. NICK BAIRD, M.D.
Director of Health

October 17, 2006

Rusty Lucas
P O Box 422
Sandusky OH 44871

Dear Mr. Lucas:

This in reply to your letter of July 14, 2006. The Ohio Department of Health, Vital Statistics does not possess the authority to change the facts appearing on a birth certificate. Birth certificates are considered to be historical documents by the State of Ohio. The date of birth listed on a birth certificate is established by the witness of the parties involved and normally signed by the attending physician. Changing of the date of birth is only done in the case that an error occurred in the establishment of the original certificate. It would be necessary to obtain a court ordered correction to change the date of birth. The judge would require evidence regarding the true date of birth. Your wife would almost certainly be required to be informed and be party to the requested correction. The basic facts of birth on a birth certificate are taken too seriously by government agencies and courts to be changed except in cases of error or necessity.

No promotional baseball cap is available from the Department of Health, Vital Statistics. I'm afraid you are left to your own resources as you plan for your spouse's next anniversary. If your affection for your wife is genuine and returned on her part, perhaps extravagant displays are not necessary. Those guys that pull off the big surprises might be lacking in other ways such as loyalty or being a reliable provider or a good parent. Good communication can be the biggest turn on. The most important romantic part of your body is between your ears.

Sincerely,

Larry Osborne, Supervisor
Special Registrations

LO/lgs

