

# Genealogists

Connecticut General Statute section 7-51a allows genealogists access to all vital records to conduct genealogical research, except those that are deemed confidential. Confidential records include:

- ◊ Birth records that reflect an adoption, paternity or gender change
- ◊ Birth records that reflect gender reassignment
- ◊ Death records containing a change to the cause or manner of death

Also, records containing social security numbers that are protected by federal law cannot be directly accessed by genealogists:

- ◊ Birth records for births occurring after November 1, 1990.
- ◊ Death and marriage records for deaths and marriages occurring after July 1, 1997.

These restricted records need to be kept in a secure location. All other records may be *directly* accessed by genealogists, so long as the security of the restricted records are not compromised.

In order to ensure eligibility, the genealogists must present a valid membership card issued by one of these Connecticut genealogical societies:

- ◊ Connecticut Ancestry Society, Inc.
- ◊ Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council, Inc.
- ◊ Descendants of the Founders of Ancient Windsor, Inc.
- ◊ French-Canadian Genealogical Society of Connecticut, Inc.
- ◊ Friends of Godfrey Memorial Library, Inc.
- ◊ Gaelic-American Club, Inc.
- ◊ Godfrey Memorial Library
- ◊ Indiana and Colonial Research Center, Inc.
- ◊ Jewish Genealogical Society of Connecticut, Inc.
- ◊ Killingly Historical Genealogical Society, Inc.
- ◊ Middlesex Genealogical Society, Inc.
- ◊ Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast, Inc.
- ◊ Southern Connecticut Ancestry Network, Inc. (SCAN)
- ◊ Southington Genealogical Society, Inc.

You should also ask for a government issued identification card to ensure that the person accessing the records is that who is named on the card.