



**In re Baby LOB aka LMB (Adoption Cause E133 of 2024)
[2025] KEHC 2614 (KLR) (Family) (10 March 2025) (Judgment)**

Neutral citation: [2025] KEHC 2614 (KLR)

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA
IN THE HIGH COURT AT NAIROBI (MILIMANI LAW COURTS)
FAMILY
ADOPTION CAUSE E133 OF 2024
CJ KENDAGOR, J
MARCH 10, 2025
IN THE MATTER OF THE CHILDREN’S ACT, 2022
AND
IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION OF BABY L.O.B. ALIAS L.M.B
IN THE MATTER OF
JKB APPLICANT**

JUDGMENT

1. Before this Court is the application dated 19th June, 2024. The Applicant, JKB is seeking to be authorised to adopt LOB hereinafter referred to as (the child) and upon adoption, the child is to be known as LMB. EOM and RO be appointed as the child’s legal guardians upon granting of the adoption orders.
2. The Applicant is the maternal aunt to the child hence the child is her nephew and a Kenyan citizen as evidenced by her Kenyan passport. The child’s parents are both deceased as evidenced by their death certificates. The Applicant has four biological children. She is self-employed and works as a tax consultant in the USA hence her financial capability and ability to provide for the child is evidenced by copies of her bank statements. Her health status is good as is evidenced by her medical reports and she does not have any previous criminal records as is evidenced by her Certificate of Good Conduct issued by the Directorate of Criminal Investigations. The Applicant has indicated that she would like to legalize the relationship between the child through adoption to enable the child become a complete member of the family. The applicant has also expressed strong desire to nurture, provide and take care of the child to give him a good upbringing.
3. The report from the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection State Department of Social Security and Protection - Directorate of Children’s Services (Nairobi County) dated 19th November, 2024 indicates



that the child is male and 16 years old having been born approximately on 6th September, 2008. The child is connected to the Applicant through kinship and was declared free for adoption by Kenya Children Home Adoption Society vide freeing Certificate Number 984.

4. EOM, who is the brother of the applicant herein, and RO are the proposed legal guardians. They are a married couple with two children and employed. The Applicant nominated the guardians because they understand their family dynamics well, and the guardians gave their consents on 23rd March and 29th April, 2024.
5. The child is a Kenyan citizen by virtue of Article 14 (1) which provides that a person is a citizen by birth if on the day of the person's birth, whether or not the person is born in Kenya, either the mother or father of the person is a citizen.
6. In light of the best interests of the child principle provided for under Article 53 (2) of *the Constitution* of Kenya, 2010. Sections 8 (1), (2) and (3) of the Children's *Act No. 29 of 2022* and the 1st Schedule of the Children's *Act No. 29 of 2022*, this Court has an obligation to prioritize the child's best interests in making decisions touching on her.
 - a. Article 53 of *the Constitution*, 2010 states that a child's best interests are of paramount importance in every matter concerning the child.
 - b. Sections 8 (1), (2) and (3) of the Children's *Act No. 29 of 2022* provides as follows;
 1. In all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies:
 - a. The best interests of the child shall be the primary consideration;
 - b. The best interests of the child shall include, but shall not be limited to the considerations set out in the First Schedule.
 2. All judicial and administrative institutions, and all persons acting in the name of such institutions, when exercising any powers conferred under this Act or any other written law, shall treat the interests of the child as the first and paramount consideration to the extent that this is consistent with adopting a course of action calculated to :-
 - a. safeguard and promote the rights and welfare of the child;
 - b. conserve and promote the welfare of the child; and
 - c. secure for the child such guidance and correction as is necessary for the welfare of the child, and in public interest.
 3. In any matters affecting a child, the child shall be accorded an opportunity to express their opinion, and that opinion shall be taken into account in appropriate cases, having regard to the child's age and degree of maturity.
 - c. The First Schedule as provided for under Section 8 (1) of the Children's *Act No. 29 of 2022* provides best interests considerations to be as follows:
 1. The age, maturity, stage of development, gender, background and any other relevant characteristics of the child.
 2. Distinct special needs (if any) arising from chronic ailment or disability.



3. The relationship of the child with the child's parent (s) and/ or guardian (s) and any other persons who may significantly affect the child's welfare.
 4. The preference of the child, if old enough to express a meaningful preference.
 5. The duration and adequacy of the child's current living arrangements and the desirability of maintaining continuity.
 6. The stability of any proposed living arrangements for the child.
 7. The motivation of the parties involved and their capacities to give the child love, affection and guidance.
 8. The child's adjustment to the child's present home, school and community.
 9. The capacity of each parent or guardian to allow and encourage frequent and continuing contact between the child and the other parent and/ or guardian (s), including physical access.
 10. The capacity of each parent and/ or guardian (s) to cooperate or to learn to cooperate in child care.
 11. Methods for assisting parental and/ or guardian cooperation and resolving disputes and each parent's/ guardian's willingness to use those methods.
 12. The effect of the child if one parent/ guardian has sole authority over the child's upbringing.
 13. The existence of domestic abuse between the parents/ guardian (s), in the past or currently, and how that abuse affects the emotional stability and physical safety of the child.
 14. The existence of any history of child abuse by a parent and/ or guardian (s); or anyone residing in the same dwelling as the child.
 15. Where the child is under one year of age, whether the child is being breast - fed.
 16. The existence of a parent's (s) or guardian's (s) conviction for a sex offense or a sexually violent offense under the [Sexual Offences Act](#).
 17. Where there is a person residing with a parent or guardian, whether that person; -
 - a. Has been convicted of a crime under this Act, the [Sexual Offences Act](#), the [Penal Code](#) or any other legislation.
 - b. Has been adjudicated of a juvenile offence which, if the person had been an adult at the time of the offence, the person would have been convicted of a felony.
 18. Any other factor which may have a direct or indirect effect on the physical and psychological well -being of the child.
7. The report from the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection State Department of Social Security and Protection - Directorate of Children's Services (Nairobi County), the report from Kenya Children's Home Adoption Society, the guardian ad litem indicate that the child will be well taken care of in the care and custody of the adoptive parent.



8. I find that this adoption gives the child a chance at a better life and education in a loving and stable home with the adoptive parent.
9. In the circumstances, I allow the Originating Summons dated 19th June, 2024 and make the following orders:
 - a. The Applicant JKB be authorized to adopt the child known as LOB.
 - b. Upon adoption, the child shall be known as LMB.
 - c. EOM and RO are appointed as legal guardians of the child.
 - d. The Registrar General is directed to make the relevant entries in the Adopted Children's Register in respect of the child.
 - e. The Registrar of births and deaths is directed to issue a birth certificate in respect of the child's new name.
10. It is so ordered.

DATED, DELIVERED AND SIGNED AT NAIROBI THROUGH THE MICROSOFT TEAMS ONLINE PLATFORM ON THIS 10TH DAY OF MARCH, 2025.

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C. KENDAGOR

JUDGE

In the presence of:

Court Assistant: Beryl

Mr. Onyari Advocate holding brief for Mr. Orina, Advocate for the Applicant

