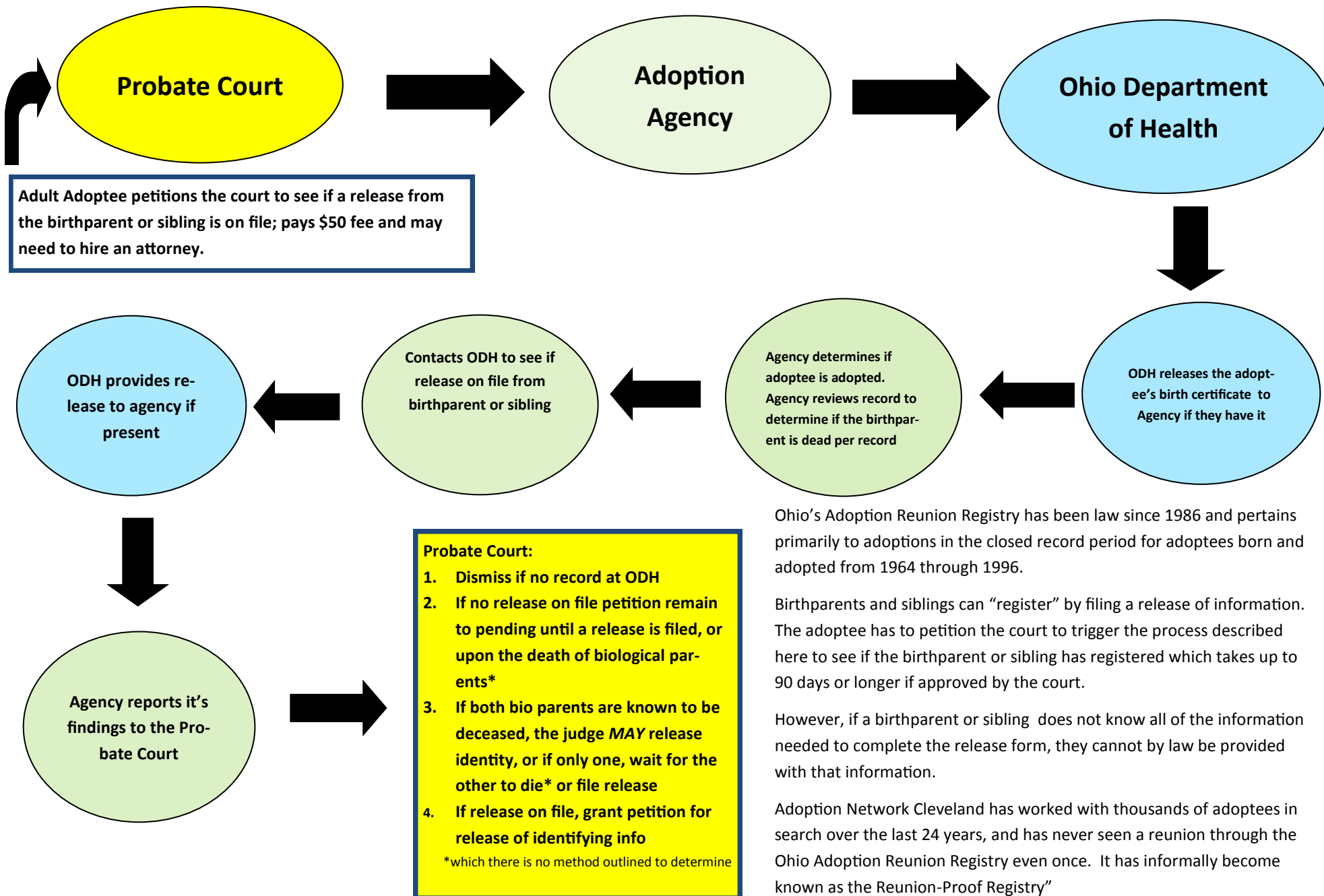


Ohio Adoption Reunion Registry—A convoluted process

As described in ORC 3107.41



Ohio's Adoption Reunion Registry has been law since 1986 and pertains primarily to adoptions in the closed record period for adoptees born and adopted from 1964 through 1996.

Birthparents and siblings can "register" by filing a release of information. The adoptee has to petition the court to trigger the process described here to see if the birthparent or sibling has registered which takes up to 90 days or longer if approved by the court.

However, if a birthparent or sibling does not know all of the information needed to complete the release form, they cannot by law be provided with that information.

Adoption Network Cleveland has worked with thousands of adoptees in search over the last 24 years, and has never seen a reunion through the Ohio Adoption Reunion Registry even once. It has informally become known as the Reunion-Proof Registry"