



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PHOENIX
Encountering the Living Christ

400 EAST MONROE STREET, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85004-2336
TELEPHONE 602-354-2275 FAX 602-354-2424

AFFIDAVIT OF FREE STATUS FOR THE MARRIAGE OF

_____ and _____
Groom (print full name) Bride (print full name)

CHURCH OF PROPOSED MARRIAGE AND ADDRESS

Affidavit of Witness for _____ (Bride or Groom)

Witnesses are to be interviewed by priest or delegate using this form in order to:

1. Assist in proving baptism when a certificate is unavailable;
2. Establish freedom to marry if the party is not known to pastor or delegate;
3. Investigate the attitude of BOTH parents when the party is under twenty-one years of age;
4. Assist chancery officials when a dispensation/permission is being sought;
5. Establish that a marriage contracted outside the canonical form was never validated.

1. Do you swear to tell the truth in answering the following questions?
2. Your full name (including maiden name): _____
Religious affiliation: _____
Address/City/State/Zip Code: _____
3. What is your relationship to the above named Person?: _____
4. How long have you known the Person? _____ How well do you know the Person? _____
5. Has the Person ever been married before? (by a religious or civil official or by common law?) _____
If yes, how many times? _____ How did each marriage end? _____
6. Was any marriage contracted outside the Church ever convalidated (or "blessed") in the Catholic Church? _____
7. Was any marriage contracted outside the Church ever granted special recognition in the Church by the Bishop without a ceremony? _____
8. To your knowledge, was either party ever bound by a religious vow of celibacy? _____
9. If there was a prior marriage, has the Person kept up financial, moral, spiritual or family responsibilities to any children of that marriage? _____
10. Are the Groom and Bride related to one another by blood (kinship), by legal relationship (in-law) or by adoption? _____
11. Is the Person entering this marriage freely, without pressure from anyone or anything? _____
12. Does the Person intend to enter a lifelong permanent marriage? _____
13. Does the Person intend to be faithful to the intended spouse? _____

- 14. Does the Person intend to be open to children in this marriage? _____
- 15. Is there a current pregnancy? When is child due? _____
- 16. Has the Person, either in the present or the past, ever had any physical, emotional, psychological, or psychiatric condition which may affect this marriage? _____

- 17. Is there a reason why the Person feels obliged to marry at this time? _____
- 18. Do you know of any reason why the Person should not be married? _____
- 19. Do you feel there is any reason to discourage them from this marriage? _____
- 20. If the person is under 18 years of age, do the parents or guardian give their consent? _____
- 21. How long have the parties known one another? _____
- 22. How long have they been dating with a view to marriage? _____
- 23. When did you become aware of their intention to marry? _____

If you feel the need to explain any of your answers, please do so here. Indicate the number of the question to which your comments are directed and use additional sheets of paper is necessary.

TO ESTABLISH BAPTISM OR NON-BAPTISM

Was the person ever baptized?: _____ Religion: _____
 Church/Parish/Other place: _____
 (Arch) Diocese: _____
 Street/City/State/Country: _____
 Name of Sponsor(s): _____
 Were you present at baptism?: _____ If no, how do you know the baptism took place? _____

 What religion does the Person now practice? _____
 If the Person is NOT baptized, how do you know of the non-baptism? _____

The affidavit is to be signed in the presence of the Pastor or his delegate and witnessed by him/her. Normally, it is not to be notarized by a Civil Notary.

Given this day of _____
 (Parish Seal) Signature of Witness

Parish Name Signature of the Interviewing Pastor or Delegate

 Parish City/(Arch) Diocese