



PETITION FOR INVESTIGATION OF A MARRIAGE BOND
Including Provision for the Other Party to Consent
- USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH MARRIAGE TO BE REVIEWED -
 Revised November 3, 2015

Protocol No. _____

(Please type or print with black ink)

I. PERSONAL DATA FOR PETITIONER:

a. Full Name: _____
 (Maiden name, if a woman): _____ Language Spoken: _____

b. Present Address: _____
 City/State/County/Zip: _____ Phone #1 _____
 email: _____ Phone #2 _____

c. How long have you lived in the Diocese of Dallas? _____
 How long do you intend to remain in the Diocese of Dallas? _____

d. Date & Place of Birth: _____

e. Religion and Rite at time of Marriage with Respondent: _____

f. Present Religion & Rite _____

g. All Baptisms: _____
 Date: _____ Place/Church: _____

h. LIST CHRONOLOGICALLY ALL MARRIAGES (civil or church) CONTRACTED BY YOU INCLUDING YOUR PRESENT MARRIAGE, IF ANY:

| Name of Partner | Marriage Date | Place of Marriage (city, state, county) | Who Officiated? (i.e. priest, minister, civil official, etc.) |
|-----------------|---------------|---|---|
| 1 | | | |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | | | |

DATE AND PLACE OF ALL CIVIL DIVORCES AND/OR DEATHS:

| Name of Partner | Final Separation Date | Divorce Date | Place of Divorce (city, state, county) |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------|--|
| 1 | | | |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | | | |

i. Name of Present Intended Spouse or None: _____
 (Include Maiden name if woman)

Baptized Non-Baptized Religion: _____

Has s/he ever been married before (civil/religious or common-law)? Yes No

j. Is it your intent to become Catholic? Yes No Not sure Are you enrolled in RCIA? Yes No Not Yet

II. PERSONAL DATA FOR RESPONDENT: (CHURCH LAW REQUIRES that the other party be contacted by the Tribunal)

a. Present Name (former spouse): _____
 (Maiden name, if a woman): _____ Language: _____

b. (If current address is unknown, where can the Respondent be contacted? If you cannot obtain an address, provide a complete explanation of the efforts made to do so. Without this information, the case cannot proceed.)
 Present Address: _____
 City/State/County/Zip: _____ Phone #1 _____
 email: _____ Phone #2 _____

c. Date & Place of Birth: _____

d. Religion and Rite at time of Marriage with Petitioner: _____

e. Present Religion & Rite _____

f. All Baptisms: _____
 Date: _____ Place/Church: _____

g. **LIST CHRONOLOGICALLY ALL MARRIAGES (civil or church) CONTRACTED BY THE RESPONDENT**

| Name of Partner | Marriage Date | Place of Marriage (city, state, county) | Who Officiated? (i.e. priest, minister, civil official, etc.) |
|-----------------|---------------|--|--|
| 1 | | | |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | | | |

DATE AND PLACE OF ALL CIVIL DIVORCES AND/OR DEATHS:

| Name of Partner | Final Separation Date | Divorce Date | Place of Divorce (city, state, county) |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------|---|
| 1 | | | |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | | | |

h. How did the Respondent react when you contacted him/her about this process? _____

III. LIST WITNESSES PROPOSED TO VERIFY FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES FOR MARRIAGE WITH RESPONDENT:

CHURCH LAW REQUIRES that this investigation be proved not only by the declarations of the parties to the marriage but also by the testimonies of reliable witnesses. List persons who have knowledge of your courtship, decision to wed, engagement, wedding, and early period of the marriage and who will provide us with information. Your parents and stepparents and those of your former spouse are contacted. List at least four other family members and/or mutual friends. Enlist the cooperation of witnesses before providing their names to the Tribunal. Witnesses are directly contacted by the Tribunal. They are to return their statements to the Tribunal rather than through you. Witnesses should keep a copy of their statements in case the original is lost in the mail.

Petitioner's father: _____ email: _____
 Address: _____ Telephone: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____ Religion/ Rite: _____
 Language: _____

Petitioner's mother: _____ email: _____
 (present & maiden) _____
 Address: _____ Telephone: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____ Religion/ Rite: _____
 Language: _____

Petitioner's stepfather: _____ email: _____
 Address: _____ Telephone: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____ Language: _____

Petitioner's stepmother: _____ email: _____
 Address: _____ Telephone: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____ Language: _____

| | | |
|--|--------|----------------------|
| Respondent's father: | email: | |
| Address: _____ | | Telephone: _____ |
| City, State, Zip: _____ | | Religion/ Rite _____ |
| | | Language: _____ |
| Respondent's mother: (present & maiden) | email: | |
| Address: _____ | | Telephone: _____ |
| City, State, Zip: _____ | | Religion/ Rite _____ |
| | | Language: _____ |
| Respondent's stepfather: | email: | |
| Address: _____ | | Telephone: _____ |
| City, State, Zip: _____ | | Language: _____ |
| Respondent's stepmother | email: | |
| Address: _____ | | Telephone: _____ |
| City, State, Zip: _____ | | Language: _____ |

FOUR ADDITIONAL WITNESSES are required:

Please note: An Expert Release must be signed by each party who met with the Expert if a medical, psychological or religious advisor is proposed as a witness.

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Name: _____ | email: _____ | |
| Address: _____ | | Telephone: _____ |
| City, State, Zip: _____ | | Relationship: _____ |
| Year Met You: _____ | Year Met Former Spouse: _____ | Language: _____ |

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Name: _____ | email: _____ | |
| Address: _____ | | Telephone: _____ |
| City, State, Zip: _____ | | Relationship: _____ |
| Year Met You: _____ | Year Met Former Spouse: _____ | Language: _____ |

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Name: _____ | email: _____ | |
| Address: _____ | | Telephone: _____ |
| City, State, Zip: _____ | | Relationship: _____ |
| Year Met You: _____ | Year Met Former Spouse: _____ | Language: _____ |

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Name: _____ | email: _____ | |
| Address: _____ | | Telephone: _____ |
| City, State, Zip: _____ | | Relationship: _____ |
| Year Met You: _____ | Year Met Former Spouse: _____ | Language: _____ |

IV. LIST CHARACTER WITNESSES WHO WILL ATTEST TO YOUR CREDIBILITY. Credibility witnesses (character witnesses) that is, people, who from a lengthy association with you, have sufficient knowledge to speak to your good name, but who were not necessarily acquainted with either party prior to the marriage, can be used to confirm the veracity of you or your former spouse concerning your confessions/declarations.

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Name: _____ | email: _____ | |
| Address: _____ | | Telephone: _____ |
| City, State, Zip: _____ | | Language: _____ |

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Name: _____ | email: _____ | |
| Address: _____ | | Telephone: _____ |
| City, State, Zip: _____ | | Language: _____ |

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Name: _____ | email: _____ | |
| Address: _____ | | Telephone: _____ |
| City, State, Zip: _____ | | Language: _____ |

Did all of your witnesses including those of your former spouse agree to serve? Yes No, please explain:

PETITIONER'S AGREEMENT

Note: *Any reference to child or elder abuse, required by law to be reported, may be reported by this Tribunal.*

I, the Petitioner, respectfully request that the Tribunal of Dallas review and investigate my marriage with

(I understand my former spouse will be contacted and given an opportunity to answer this petition.)

After the investigation has been made, I request that there be, if possible under the canon law of the Roman Catholic Church, a final judgment declaring the marriage invalid and establishing my freedom to marry in the Catholic Church.

As evidence to support this petition, I offer: my own declaration; the names and addresses of potential witnesses; any documents which may be pertinent; and other proofs which may reveal the facts concerning the marriage under investigation. I understand all documents submitted to the Tribunal by me or anyone else will become the property of the Dallas Tribunal and be preserved according to Church law. I understand my former spouse and I will be able to review, in the Tribunal offices, the case file, including each other's declaration and all other unrestricted materials.

My domicile (place of residence) and that of the Respondent are correctly noted on this petition.

I mandate that my Procurator-Advocate, _____, whose signature appears below, perform in my name, including renunciation, all that may be necessary in my interests. I understand that, at any time, I may appoint another Procurator and/or Advocate.

I recognize the Tribunal cannot guarantee a time frame for the completion of this case. I acknowledge I cannot set a date for any marriage, including a convalidation, until I have received final notice that I am free to marry and that any stipulations placed by the Tribunal have been fulfilled. I also understand that no priest, deacon or lay minister may provide me with even a tentative date for a future wedding in the Catholic Church until this process shall have been completed.

I understand and agree that these proceedings are part and parcel of the free exercise of religious liberty of the Catholic Church and governed solely by its canonical precepts.

I understand I may receive future correspondence from the Tribunal via email rather than US Mail. I agree to notify the Tribunal of any changes in my contact information.

By virtue of this statement, I authorize and release the Tribunal of the Diocese of Dallas to send my complete case file to any Court-appointed Expert for review and to interview me, and/or to conduct testing, as determined by the Expert. I understand the Court-appointed Expert will provide the Tribunal of the Diocese of Dallas with the results of the interview and/or testing, including an evaluation and actual test results, to assist the officials of the Dallas Tribunal and any Appellate Court in rendering a decision on my Petition. These results will become a part of the case file and the property of the Dallas Tribunal to be preserved according to Church law.

I understand that counseling may be mandated before permission will be given for a marriage in the Catholic Church and that some materials from my file may be given to the clergy or layperson counseling and/or preparing me (or my former spouse) for marriage in the Church.

PETITIONER’S AGREEMENT (Continued)

I understand that the Tribunal is subsidized by parish assessments, but I may be required to pay the fees for:

- A Document or People Search Service when such services are required.
- The agreed upon fee to the Court-appointed Expert for psychological evaluation(s), possibly including testing, for the Petitioner and/or Respondent.
- Any fee for an appeal either to the Appellate Court for the Dioceses of Texas or to the Roman Rota.
- The agreed upon fee to the Marriage Readiness Assessor prior to any new marriage in the Church, if required.

I know civil and moral obligations arising from my prior marriage must be met before I may be able marry in the Church.

I hereby affirm that the facts supplied are true and correct and affix my signature to this Petition.

(Signature of Petitioner)

Subscribed before me at _____

on _____

(Name of Priest, Deacon or Lay Minister)

(Signature of Priest, Deacon or Lay Minister)

I will assume the role of Procurator-Advocate for the Petitioner

This agreement, questionnaires and other related documents also are signed when a party’s signature is delivered by facsimile, email, or other electronic medium. These signatures must be treated in all respects as having the same force and effect as original signatures.

11/03/2015 Ed.

RESPONDENT’S AGREEMENT

Note: *Any reference to child or elder abuse, required by law to be reported, may be reported by this Tribunal.*

I, _____, the Respondent, consent to this Petition for Investigation of a Marriage Bond and am including for submission herein my own declaration, names and addresses of potential witnesses, and any documents or other proofs that may be pertinent. In addition, I have read the above-referenced Agreement signed by the Petitioner,

and, as evidenced by my signature, join in this Agreement.

(Signature of Respondent)

Subscribed before me at _____

on _____

(Name of Priest, Deacon or Lay Minister)

(Signature of Priest, Deacon or Lay Minister)

I will assume the role of Procurator-Advocate for the Respondent

This agreement, questionnaires and other related documents also are signed when a party’s signature is delivered by facsimile, email, or other electronic medium. These signatures must be treated in all respects as having the same force and effect as original signatures.

11/03/2015 Ed.