



AFFIDAVIT OF FREE STATUS FOR MARRIAGE OF

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

Parish of Marriage Name and Address

Affidavit of Witness for [ ] Bride or [ ] Groom

Two witnesses for the bride and two witnesses for the groom must be interviewed using this form in order:
1 To assist in proving baptism, when certificate is unavailable.
2 To establish freedom to marry when either party is not well known to the pastor or delegate arranging the wedding.
3 To investigate the attitude of BOTH parents, when the party is under eighteen years old.
4 To investigate the stability of the marriage when either party is under eighteen years old.
5 To assist chancery officials when a dispensation/permission is being sought.
Parental testimony is always preferred and should not be neglected except for grave reasons.

- 1 Do your solemnly swear to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth in answering the following questions?
2 Name
Address
3 What is your relationship to the person for whom you are testifying?
4 How long and how well have you known this person?
5 What religion does the person for whom you are testifying practice at present?
6 Has the above mentioned person ever been married before to a person other than the one presently intended?
If yes: [ ] Religiously [ ] Civilly [ ] Common Law How many times?
With whom?
How have these marriages ended?
Have the natural obligations toward spouse or children arising from a prior union been fulfilled?
7 Are the parties in this intended marriage related to each other? In what way?
8 To your knowledge does the person for whom you are testifying intend to have children in this marriage?
If "no" please explain
9 To your knowledge, is the person for whom you are testifying entering this marriage freely?
If "no" please explain
10 To your knowledge, is the person for whom you are testifying intend to enter a life-long union?
If "no" please explain
11 To your knowledge, does the person for whom you are testifying intend to be faithful for life to the partner in this marriage?
If "no" please explain
12 Do you know of any reason, faulty intent or impediment for which this person should not be married?
If "yes" please explain

- 13 Does this person understand that marriage in the church is a partnership of life and love? \_\_\_\_\_  
 If "no" please explain \_\_\_\_\_
- 14 How long have these parties known each other? \_\_\_\_\_
- 15 How long have they been dating with a view to marriage? \_\_\_\_\_
- 16 When did you become aware of their intention to marry? \_\_\_\_\_
- 17 Have you tried to discourage them from entering this marriage? \_\_\_\_\_  
 If "yes" please explain \_\_\_\_\_
- 18 Is there any reason why this person feels obliged to marry at this time? \_\_\_\_\_  
 If "yes" what is the reason? \_\_\_\_\_

**TO ESTABLISH BAPTISM OR NON BAPTISM**

- 19 Was the person for whom you are testifying ever baptized? \_\_\_\_\_
- 20 If baptized, In what religion? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_  
 In what Church and place? \_\_\_\_\_  
 By whom? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Who were the sponsors? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Were you present? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, how do you know of the Baptism? \_\_\_\_\_
- 21 If not baptized, how do you know this? \_\_\_\_\_

**IF EITHER PARTY IS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE**

The following questions should be answered by the person testifying. In addition a letter of recommendation is required from the pastor or delegate working with the couple.

- 22 Have the parents of this person been consulted about this marriage? \_\_\_\_\_  
 What is their attitude toward this marriage? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Have they given their consent? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_
- 23 How do the parties intend to meet their financial responsibilities? \_\_\_\_\_

As you sign this testimonial do you certify that you have read the answers and realize that you are under oath in making these statements?

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Witness' Signature

Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pastor/Delegate's Signature