

DIOCESE OF SOUTHEAST FLORIDA
GUIDELINES FOR REMARRIAGE AFTER DIVORCE

To All Diocesan Clergy

These guidelines are to be followed for any marital judgment in this diocese.

1. The Canons of this Church stipulate that no member of the clergy, priest or bishop, can officiate at the remarriage of any person, who has been divorced, or whose marriage has been annulled or terminated without a judgment from the Bishop.
2. Sixty days (60) are required between the application for a judgment and the proposed date of the wedding. This allows time for fact-finding, obtaining documents, obtaining the Bishop's consent, and for the required pre-nuptial counseling. The sixty days begin when the process begins.
3. I will not accept any application for judgment under one month (30 days) prior to the date of the wedding.
4. When one or both of the parties are members of another Episcopal parish, check with that rector before continuing any further discussion. Let us support one another in our ministry.
5. A definition of terms: Nullity means that no marriage existed or exists, as the Church understands this term; Termination means that the marriage is ended and spiritually dead.
6. I will not entertain any request for a marital judgment which does not (1) state the date of the proposed wedding, (2) include a Declaration of Intent signed by both parties and the priest, and (3) include a copy of all final divorce decrees.
7. In cases where the couple legally resides in another diocese but wish to be married in a church of this diocese, they must obtain a marital judgment from the Bishop of that diocese in which they reside. That Bishop will then advise me of their judgment and I will give permission to the local priest to officiate.
8. Priests from outside this diocese must have permission from both bishops to officiate in this diocese.

Blessings,



The Rt. Rev. Leo Frade, D.D.
Diocese of Southeast Florida

DIOCESE OF SOUTHEAST FLORIDA

**This DECLARATION to be signed by BOTH Partners
of the Intended Marriage**

In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

DECLARATION OF INTENTION

We, _____ and _____,
desiring to receive the blessing of Holy Matrimony in the Church, do
solemnly declare that we hold marriage to be a lifelong union of
husband and wife as is set forth in the Book of Common Prayer.

"We believe that the union of husband and wife, in heart, body and
mind, is intended by God for their mutual joy; for the help and comfort
given one another in prosperity and adversity; and, when it is God's will,
for the procreation of children and their nurture in the knowledge and
love of the Lord. And we do engage ourselves, so far as in us lies, to
make our utmost effort to establish this relationship and to seek God's
help thereto."

Signature of Groom

Signature of Bride

Date: _____

THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHEAST FLORIDA

APPLICATION FOR CONSENT FOR REMARRIAGE IN THE CHURCH AFTER DIVORCE
Under provisions of Title I, Canon 18, Section 3c of the General Convention,
Episcopal Church

I. THE PROPOSED MARRIAGE--To be filled out by CLERGY

1. Parish and address: _____

2. Priest requesting consent: _____
3. Date applicants first came to see you: _____
4. Names and addresses of applicants:
Man: _____ Age: _____
Address: _____
Woman: _____ Age: _____
Address: _____
5. Church membership of the applicants:
Man's religious affiliation: _____ Active? _____
Parish and address: _____

Woman's religious affiliation: _____ Active? _____
Parish and address: _____

6. Which of the applicants have been married before? _____
7. Have they approached any other minister about this proposed marriage before coming to you?
If YES, give details: _____
8. If either applicant is a member of another Episcopal church, why are they not being married in that church? _____

9. Have you consulted with the priest at the applicant's church? _____
If NOT, why not? If YES, what was their advice and counsel concerning the proposed marriage? _____
10. Date of the proposed marriage: _____
11. Have YOU had at least 60 days notice of their intention?

If NOT, please tell the urgent reason for the exception you are proposing:

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12. Have you given premarital instruction to this couple, which you feel to be adequate to their need? _____
13. Have you set a definite date for post-marital counseling with the applicants? _____
14. What factors make you think the proposed marriage will be successful?

15. In your opinion, is (are) the previous marriage(s) psychologically and practically ended? _____
16. Is (are) the previous marriage(s) ended by termination or annulment? _____
17. Are you satisfied that adequate provisions have been made for any children resulting from the previous marriage(s)? _____
Why? _____
18. What problems do you see ahead? _____
19. Do you think the applicants are dealing soundly with the realities and potential problems? _____
20. What do you think the divorced applicant(s) has (have) learned from the previous marriage(s) which will help the proposed marriage succeed? _____

21. PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF ALL FINAL DIVORCE DECREES. (You may want to see the complete court record, in order to verify the facts of the case.)
22. Conscious of my responsibility under the canon, I do recommend and request that you give consent to this application.

Priest's signature

THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHEAST FLORIDA

II. THE PREVIOUS MARRIAGE--To be filled out by the APPLICANT

1. Name of person making application: _____
2. Name of previous marriage partner: _____
3. Your age and that of your previous marriage partner at the time of the marriage:
Yours: _____ Partner's: _____
4. Date of previous marriage: _____
Date of separation: _____
Date of divorce: _____
5. Please attach a copy of the final divorce decree. The priest may want to see a complete copy of the court record, in order to verify the facts of the case.
6. Which party brought divorce proceedings? _____
7. On what grounds was the divorce obtained? _____

8. Were children born of your previous marriage? _____ How many? _____
Present ages: _____
Who has custody of the children, and why? _____

9. Have you fulfilled all obligations to the previous marriage partner? _____
(Provided for the well-being of your former spouse and any resulting children)
Is there continuing financial obligation? _____
If YES, are there adequate resources to meet it, as well as to care for the new family? _____
Are all parties aware of, and satisfied with, the financial arrangements? _____

10. Please attach a brief account of the marriage history, and the circumstances leading to the divorce.

Signature of applicant

Date