

**DETERMINATION OF THE NULLITY OF MARRIAGE
DUE TO THE LACK OF THE CANONICAL FORM
IN THE MARRIAGE OF:**

_____ and _____

A. DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

1. Baptism certificate:

Name of Church _____

Address of Church _____

(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Date of Baptism _____

Notations: 1) _____

2) _____

(If none, please so indicate)

2. Marriage Information:

County and State of Marriage _____

Date of Marriage _____

Officiant at Marriage _____

3. Divorce Decree:

Where Issued (County and State) _____

Date _____

Officiating Judge _____

B. OTHER QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED:

4. Was a Dispensation from the Canonical Form granted for this marriage? _____

When? _____

By which (Arch) Diocese _____

5. Did either party to the marriage ever formally reject the Catholic Faith? _____

Please give details: when, how, etc. _____

6. Is this party current in his/her child/spouse support payments? _____

7. Have the other demands of the civil divorce settlement been met? _____

(Signature of Priest or Deacon)

DATE: _____

(Parish)

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE PRIEST OR DEACON:

A decision from the Pontifical Commission for the Authentic Interpretation of the Code published in L'Osservatore Romano, 8-9 October, 1984, now permits the priest or deacon, making the pre-martial investigation to determine the freedom to marry of a person who, though bound to the canonical form attempted a marriage before a civil official or a non-Catholic minister.

To arrive at moral certitude of freedom to marry, the following documents must be seen:

1. A recently issued Baptism Certificate, with special attention to the notation of previous marriage(s).
2. A copy of the Marriage License or Marriage Certificate which indicates the official before whom the marriage took place.
3. A signed and dated final copy of the Divorce Decree, to determine that the marriage had been civilly dissolved.

The testimony of witnesses would be necessary to supply crucial information, which might be lacking in the authentic documents.

The information from the documents must be accurately recorded on the opposite side of this form, which must be retained in the marriage packet. The original documents do not need to be retained in the parish file.

If the answer to the question, **“Did either party to the marriage ever formally reject the Catholic Faith?”** is affirmative, the party may not have been bound to the form and the marriage could be valid even though the form had not been observed.

Before a petitioner may proceed to a subsequent marriage, the obligations imposed by the natural law, e.g., support of former wife and/or children must be satisfied (Canons 1148 #3, 1154).

If there are multiple marriages, a separate form must be prepared for each attempted marriage.

In case of doubt concerning any of the above items, please consult the Tribunal.