

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON
PRENUPTIAL INVESTIGATION

Marriage of

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

Parish of marriage and address

Affidavit of witness for Bride or Groom

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THIS FORM IS TO BE USED IN THE FOLLOWING CASES:

- To establish freedom to marry:
(a) When either party has lived in more than one parish or place for more than six months after puberty, or when some doubt exists in the mind of the priest concerning freedom to marry.
(b) When a dispensation from bans is requested.
(c) For both parties in a mixed marriage.

To assist in proving baptism, when a certificate is unavailable.

To investigate the attitude of parents when the party is under twenty-one years of age.

To investigate the stability of the proposed marriage when the party is under eighteen years of age.

Four witnesses are necessary. Parental testimony is always preferred.

(For Chancery Use)

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Do you solemnly swear to tell the truth, without any reservations, in answering the following questions?

Name Address

- 1. What is your relationship to the person whose name appears above?
2. How long have you known this person? How well?
3. Is it likely that this person could have attempted marriage without your knowledge?
4. Has the above mentioned person ever gone through any type of marriage ceremony?
5. If so, how many times? with whom? when?
6. Do these marriages still exist? If not, how dissolved: Annulment? Death?
7. Is the above mentioned person related to the other party in this intended marriage? If so, what way?
8. To your knowledge, is the above mentioned person entering this marriage freely?
9. To your knowledge, does the above mentioned person intend to enter a life-long union?
10. To your knowledge, does the above mentioned person intend to be faithful for life to the partner in this marriage?
11. If no to any part of question 7, explain
12. Do you know of any reason why this person should not be married? If yes, explain:

\_\_\_\_\_

**IF THE BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE IS NOT AVAILABLE:**

13. Was the above mentioned person ever 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? \_\_\_\_\_

14. If the above person was not baptized, how do you know of the non-baptism? \_\_\_\_\_

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**IF THE PARTY IS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS SHOULD BE ANSWERED:**

1. Have the parents of this person been consulted about this marriage? \_\_\_\_\_  
Have they given their consent? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How long have these parties known each other? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How long have they been dating with a view to marriage? \_\_\_\_\_
4. When did you become aware of their intention to marry? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Have you tried to discourage them from entering this marriage? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Is there any reason why this person feels compelled to marry at this time? \_\_\_\_\_
7. How does the groom intend to meet his financial responsibility to his wife and family? \_\_\_\_\_

PARISH SEAL

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF INTERROGATING PRIEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PLACE

Comments by priest (if necessary):

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_