



ARCHDIOCESE of SAN ANTONIO

Petition for Marriage Nullity

Case Fees

The Metropolitan Tribunal serves all persons, regardless of ability to pay, thanks to the many generous donors who support the Archdiocese of San Antonio.

Our standard case fees are posted below.

Ordinary Case for Marriage Nullity

- \$450
- \$250 for the second case for the same Petitioner
- \$150 for the third case for the same Petitioner

Thank you for paying the entire case fee when you submit your petition. Or, you may pay \$100 as a deposit when you submit your petition and pay the remainder of the balance when the case ends.

If your financial situation is difficult and you cannot pay the case fee, YOU MAY SUBMIT YOUR PETITION WITHOUT PAYMENT. We do not want finances to be a barrier! All cases are handled the same, regardless of whether or not a payment is made.

Payment may be made by check, credit card or cash. Follow this link to pay by credit or debit card:

<https://archsa.regfox.com/tribunal-case-fee>

Checks should be made payable to AOSA (which stands for the Archdiocese of San Antonio) and mailed to us at Tribunal

2718 W. Woodlawn Ave.

San Antonio, TX 78228

Regarding Necessary Documents

- Baptized Catholics should submit a recently issued Baptismal Certificate with notations from their church of baptism.
- Those married in the Catholic Church should submit a Marriage Certificate from their church of marriage or have notation on Baptismal Certificate.
- Those married in a non-Catholic ceremony should submit a certified copy of their civil Marriage License.
- Please obtain a certified copy of your Divorce Decree.
- We understand that it may be difficult to obtain these documents; please consult the Tribunal for help if needed.

Other Notes for Submitting Petitions

- Prepare a separate petition form for each marriage to be investigated.
- Make a scan or copy of your work before mailing it to the Tribunal.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Tribunal, or attend one of our Annulment Seekers Workshops. See our Education & Events page for upcoming dates and locations.



Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of San Antonio

2718 W. Woodlawn Avenue, San Antonio, Texas 78228

Voice 210-734-1661 / Fax 210-734-9957

Tribunal@archsa.org / www.archsa.org/Tribunal

LIBELLUS
PETITION FOR A DECLARATION OF MARRIAGE NULLITY
(ORDINARY PROCESS)

I, _____
First Name Middle Name Last Name

Maiden Name (if applicable)

residing at _____
Street Address, including Apartment Number

in _____,
City State Zip Code Country

hereby petition the Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of San Antonio to declare
invalid, under the provision of ecclesiastical law, my marriage to

First Name Middle Name Last Name

Maiden Name (if applicable)

residing at _____
Street Address, including Apartment Number

in _____,
City State Zip Code Country

We married at _____
Place of Marriage (Courthouse, Name of Church, Residence, Other Venue)

on _____ in _____,
Date of Marriage City or County of Marriage State Country

We divorced on _____ in _____,
Date of Divorce City or County of Divorce State Country

As one of the parties to this marriage, I claim the right under the provision of Canon 1674, to impugn the validity of the union. I contend that this marriage was invalid for one or more of the following reasons, that is, because either one of us or both of us

- was previously married (c. 1085.1)
- lacked due reason (c. 1095.1) or lacked due discretion (c. 1095.2) or was incapable of assuming the essential obligations of marriage (c. 1095.3)
- was in error about a quality of the other person (c. 1097.2)
- committed fraud or was deceived about something that impacted the marriage (c. 1098)
- was in error about the unity, indissolubility or sacramental dignity of marriage (c. 1099)
- did not intend something essential to marriage, such as the good of the spouse, fidelity, openness to children, lifelong marriage, or married for some other reason besides marriage itself (c. 1101.2)
- placed a condition on the marriage either from the past, the present or the future (c. 1102)
- was forced to marry or felt grave fear which compelled either or both to enter the marriage (c. 1103)

Please briefly explain why you believe the marriage to be invalid.

[REQUIRED – Petitioner’s Signature and Date is required.]

Signature of Petitioner

Date

BASIS FOR COMPETENCY

This Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of San Antonio is competent to hear nullity cases for cases meeting certain criteria.

Please review the statements below and check any that apply to your situation.

- The marriage took place within the boundaries of the Archdiocese of San Antonio (c. 1672 °1)
- I or my spouse* live at least some portion of the year in the Archdiocese of San Antonio (c. 1672 °2)
- I will propose witnesses who live at least some portion of the year in the Archdiocese of San Antonio (c. 1672 °3)

* **Spouse** refers to the husband or wife from the marriage you are asking to be declared invalid.

WHAT IS A DECLARATION OF MARRIAGE NULLITY?

The Catholic Church understands that marriage results when eligible persons exchange consent to marry in a legitimate ceremony. The Church recognizes the validity of marriages between baptized Catholics who marry according to the Church's Code of Canon Law, but also presumes the validity of marriages between non-Catholics.

A marriage may be declared invalid by a Catholic tribunal, even a marriage not celebrated in the Catholic Church, if one or more of the following is true: 1) one of the persons was not eligible to marry; OR 2) for baptized Catholics, that something was lacking in the form of the ceremony required by the Church's Code of Canon Law; OR 3) there was something defective in the consent of the parties to the marriage.

WHAT DOES YOUR PETITION DO?

In presenting a petition for a declaration of nullity of your marriage, you are asking that your marital status be clarified in the Roman Catholic Church. If your case is accepted, the Judge(s) will decide if the marriage should continue to be presumed valid or if it may be declared invalid.

Out of respect for the human dignity of persons and the sacred nature of marriage, Church tribunals are required to **presume all marriages are valid**. The Tribunal takes seriously the vows you made in the past and only a serious defect that was present before the marriage or at the time you exchanged vows would justify a declaration of marriage nullity. A marriage nullity case in a Catholic tribunal involves a thorough examination of the marriage, the collection of testimony and evidence, and the application of the Church's Code of Canon Law to the facts and vice versa, and the prayerful discernment of the Judge(s) assigned to your case.

A Catholic tribunal is an ecclesiastical (Church) court of law, and its proceedings are governed solely by the laws of the Roman Catholic Church. Its work and findings are exclusively religious in nature. **There are no civil effects of the proceedings**. However, the Tribunal will not undertake work on cases if there is ongoing civil litigation between the parties.

GUIDANCE FOR SUBMITTING YOUR PETITION

It is important to use **the most recent petition form**. Please see the Petition for Declaration of Marriage Nullity (Ordinary Process) on our Tribunal web site at <https://tribunal.archsa.org/forms>.

You may submit your petition **through your Pastor/Parish Minister or directly to the Tribunal**. It is recommended that you make a complete **copy of your petition and documents** before submitting them to your Parish or the Tribunal. This will avoid problems if anything is lost in the mail. The appropriate documents and the case fee (or any partial payment) should accompany your petition. Please see the following sections on Costs and Documents.

You will receive a letter by regular mail to inform you that the Judicial Vicar has accepted your petition or a letter by regular mail to explain the reason why it cannot be accepted.

CONCERNING DOCUMENTS

For baptized Catholics only, please contact your parish of baptism to request *a Recently Issued Baptismal Certificate with the Parish Seal with any available notations*. You can have the certificate mailed directly to the Tribunal, or you may present the baptismal certificate to the Tribunal in person or by mail. We must inspect the document with the seal. We are most happy to return your original document to you.

For marriages in the Catholic Church, please provide either *a Marriage Certificate with the Parish Seal* from the parish where you were married, **OR** a **CERTIFIED COPY of your Marriage License**, which shows the officiant as a Catholic clergy person.

For marriages outside of the Catholic Church, please provide *a CERTIFIED COPY of your Marriage License*.

All cases require *a CERTIFIED COPY of your Divorce Decree*.

If you are having difficulty obtaining any of these documents, please let us know. We would be happy to help you.

CONCERNING COSTS

While the Tribunal makes every effort to minimize costs, hearing marriage nullity cases incurs significant expense, including salaries, postage, office equipment, etc. While the Archdiocese of San Antonio subsidizes the majority of the expenses of the Tribunal, the Tribunal also relies on the financial support of those who benefit most directly from its ministry.

The case fee for an Ordinary Process case or Briefer Process case is \$450.

(The case fee for a second Ordinary or Briefer Process case for the same Petitioner is \$250; the case fee for a third case is \$150).

Note: Briefer Processes are undertaken when both parties to the case are involved from the start.

The case fee for a Documentary Process case (including Lack of Canonical Form) is \$150.

(The case fee for a second Documentary Process case for the same Petitioner is \$125; the case fee for a third case is \$100).

Note: Lack of Canonical Form cases are undertaken when a baptized Catholic does not marry according to the Church's canonical form, which includes the presence of a Catholic bishop, priest or deacon and two witnesses.

You may pay your case fee by cash (in person at the Tribunal office); by check payable to AOSA (Archdiocese of San Antonio); or by credit or debit card at the following site: <https://archsa.regfox.com/tribunal-case-fee> Many people pay a **\$100 deposit** (or another amount toward their case fee) when submitting a petition and pay the balance at the end of the case. **All cases are considered equally, regardless of ability to pay.** If you have a financial hardship that prevents you from paying even a portion of your case fee, we ask you to please let us know. **DO NOT DELAY** submitting your petition until you can pay the case fee. We ask you to submit your petition and documents as soon as possible, regardless of whether you can pay the case fee.

CONCERNING CONFIDENTIALITY

Due to the sensitive nature of case matter, all information related to your case is confidential. The Tribunal officers, such as your Advocate, and Tribunal staff take oaths of confidentiality and are well trained to keep confidentiality.

Only the two parties to the marriage in question can make inquiries about the status of the case. If you are being assisted by your Pastor/Parish Minister and they sign your documents with you, the Tribunal will let them know if and when your case was accepted, and we will let them know if and when a declaration of marriage nullity is granted. They will have no other information, other than what you yourself share with them.

In accord with applicable standards of professional accountability, reports from psychological counselors are never provided to the Petitioner or Respondent to review. For serious reasons, such as the avoidance of defamation of character, physical danger, severe family discord or true scandal, the identity of a particular witness may be withheld from the Petitioner or the Respondent. The decision whether to withhold any witness's identity or testimony, however, belongs solely to the Judge(s), acting in accord with the requirements of the Church's Code of Canon Law.

CONCERNING THE RESPONDENT (YOUR SPOUSE*)

You are not required to have any contact with your spouse before, during or after your case is resolved. The Tribunal will never release your contact information to your spouse.

It is not required that your spouse participates in the investigation.

It is not up to your spouse whether or not the declaration of nullity is granted. Your spouse can only choose to participate or not participate; he/she does not determine the Judge(s)'s decision. The Judge(s) will make a decision based on the testimony and evidence available.

As prescribed by the Church's Code of Canon Law, the Tribunal will ordinarily contact your spouse to offer him/her the opportunity to do what you did, which is provide testimony and propose witnesses regarding the marriage.

Note: If you feel that you would be in physical harm if your spouse became aware of your petition, please attach a note to your petition explaining your circumstances to the Judicial Vicar.

* **Spouse** refers to the husband or wife from the marriage you are asking to be declared invalid.

IMPORTANT ITEMS TO UNDERSTAND BEFORE YOU SUBMIT YOUR PETITION

Please read carefully and ***initial each item below*** to indicate you understand and accept these points. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Tribunal.

_____ **I understand and accept that the Tribunal cannot guarantee my case will be accepted, or if accepted, that it will be completed within a certain period of time.** I will receive communication from the Tribunal as the case progresses. I am also welcome to contact the Tribunal regarding the progress of my case.

_____ **I understand and accept that the Tribunal asks for my Mandate to appoint an Advocate from among the approved Advocates for the Archdiocese of San Antonio.** I will be informed of the name and contact information for my Advocate if my case is accepted. My Advocate will represent me and accomplish whatever is useful to my interests in the case.

_____ When the Judge has determined sufficient testimony has been collected, **I understand and accept that my spouse* and our Advocates will be given the opportunity to review the testimony.** Reviews are scheduled in advance and take place at a Tribunal Office in the presence of a Tribunal Minister. The party or Advocate reviewing the testimony will be asked to swear or affirm an Oath of Confidentiality.

_____ **I understand and accept that the Tribunal cannot guarantee that the decision will be in favor of nullity; it could be that my marriage will continue to be presumed valid.** I have the right to appeal a negative decision, which will result in the case being considered by a Court of Appeal, either the Tribunal of the Diocese of Dallas or the Roman Rota.

_____ Because neither the outcome nor the timing of the case is guaranteed, **ABSOLUTELY NO ARRANGEMENTS FOR A FUTURE MARRIAGE IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH SHOULD BE MADE** until I receive final notification in writing that my prior marriage has been declared invalid and there are no conditions on future marriage.

_____ **Finally, I understand and accept that even if the decision is in favor of nullity, the Judge(s) may restrict permission for me to enter a new marriage in the Catholic Church.** If conditions are placed on future marriage that require me to receive therapy or professional counseling prior to a new marriage, I understand that I am responsible for arranging and paying for such treatment.

* **Spouse** refers to the husband or wife from the marriage you are asking to be declared invalid.

[REQUIRED – Petitioner’s Signature and Date is required.]

Signature of Petitioner

Date

YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

Your Father's Name _____

Complete Mailing Address _____

Telephone Numbers (Please include area code and country code, if necessary).

Cell _____ Work _____ Home _____

Email Address _____

Communication should be in English Spanish Other, please specify _____

Your Mother's Name _____

Complete Mailing Address _____

Telephone Numbers (Please include area code and country code, if necessary).

Cell _____ Work _____ Home _____

Email Address _____

Communication should be in English Spanish Other, please specify _____

YOUR EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

- No Formal Education
- Some College
- High School Graduate
- College Graduate

YOUR WORK HISTORY

Briefly describe the kinds of jobs you have had over the years.

YOUR SPOUSE’S FAMILY HISTORY

Father’s Name _____

Complete Mailing Address _____

Telephone Numbers (Please include area code and country code, if necessary).

Cell _____ Work _____ Home _____

Email Address _____

Communication should be in English Spanish Other, please specify _____

Mother’s Name _____

Complete Mailing Address _____

Telephone Numbers (Please include area code and country code, if necessary).

Cell _____ Work _____ Home _____

Email Address _____

Communication should be in English Spanish Other, please specify _____

YOUR SPOUSE’S EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

No Formal Education Some College

High School Graduate College Graduate

YOUR SPOUSE’S WORK HISTORY

Briefly describe the kinds of jobs he/she has had over the years.

* **Spouse** refers to the husband or wife from the marriage you are asking to be declared invalid.

HISTORY AS A COUPLE

When you began dating, how old were you? _____ How old was your spouse? _____

How long after you began dating did you decide to marry? _____

Date of (non-Catholic) Marriage _____ Date of Catholic Marriage, if applicable _____

Did you and your spouse have or adopt children together? Yes No

IF YES, please list the names and dates of birth of each child below.

Did you bring any children from prior relationships into the marriage? Yes No

IF YES, please list their names and dates of birth below.

Did your spouse bring any children from prior relationships into the marriage? Yes No

IF YES, please list their names and dates of birth below.

Approximate date you stopped living together _____.

Who filed for divorce? You Your Spouse

Are you and your Spouse currently involved in any type of litigation or court proceeding with each other? Yes No

Have you notified your Spouse that you intend to petition for a declaration of marriage nullity? Yes No

If YES, what was his/her reaction?

WITNESS FORM

Witnesses are necessary for the Judge to come to moral certitude about the status of your marriage. **Please list at least 2 witnesses, although more are ideal. Please let your witnesses know that they will be contacted by the Tribunal and that you desire them to be honest and open in their testimony.** Thank them for their participation. The most useful witnesses are persons who have known you BEFORE as well as DURING the marriage. Parents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, longtime friends, members of the wedding party are all good choices. If you are having difficulty identifying witnesses, contact the Tribunal and we can discuss your situation with you and offer suggestions. Note: Your witnesses will only be aware of what they testified; they will not have any access to any other information about your case.

WITNESS <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____ Name _____ Complete Mailing Address _____ _____ Telephone Numbers (Please include area code and country code, if necessary). Cell _____ Work _____ Home _____ Email Address _____ Communication should be in <input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify _____
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WITNESS <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____ Name _____ Complete Mailing Address _____ _____ Telephone Numbers (Please include area code and country code, if necessary). Cell _____ Work _____ Home _____ Email Address _____ Communication should be in <input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify _____
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WITNESS <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____ Name _____ Complete Mailing Address _____ _____ Telephone Numbers (Please include area code and country code, if necessary). Cell _____ Work _____ Home _____ Email Address _____ Communication should be in <input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify _____
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Please use the reverse side or make copies of this page if you have additional witnesses.

MANDATE FOR PETITIONER’S ADVOCATE

I also hereby appoint and give my Mandate to whomever the Judicial Vicar appoints as Advocate to represent me for this process in First Instance, with the faculty of doing and performing in my name all that may be necessary and useful to my interests in this case. This Mandate includes the full right to delegate a substitute, authorization to review the published acts on my behalf, as well as authority to perform other duties required throughout the process.

[REQUIRED – Petitioner’s Signature and Date is required.]

Signature of Petitioner

Date

OATH BY THE PETITIONER

WITH GOD AS MY WITNESS, I DECLARE UNDER OATH

THAT ALL OF MY RESPONSES TO THE QUESTIONS ON THIS PETITION FORM

AND TO THE REFLECTION QUESTIONS ATTACHED TO THIS PETITION FORM,

ARE, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, TRUE AND ACCURATE.

[REQUIRED – Petitioner’s Signature and Date is required.]

Signature of Petitioner

Date

[OPTIONAL – You may submit your petition directly to the Tribunal without any assistance. If you are being assisted by your Pastor/Parish Minister, please invite him/her to sign with you.]

Signature of Pastor/Parish Minister Assisting Petitioner

Date

PRINTED NAME OF PASTOR/PARISH MINISTER

Name of Parish, City

RECOMMENDATION BY PASTOR/PARISH MINISTER [OPTIONAL]

It is the Petitioner's option to submit a petition through his/her Pastor/Parish Minister or directly to the Tribunal. If the Pastor/Parish Minister is assisting the Petitioner, it is highly recommended that the Pastor/Parish Minister complete this form and include it when submitting petition on the Petitioner's behalf. *Please use additional pages if more space is needed.*

1. How long have you known the Petitioner? _____
How well do you know the Petitioner? Please assess his or her credibility.

2. Is the Petitioner an actively practicing member of your parish? Yes No
If YES, please describe his or her religious practice.

3. Do you believe the Petitioner has worked through the breakup of the marriage?
 Yes No If YES, how did you come to this conclusion?

4. Why does the Petitioner desire a declaration of marriage nullity?

5. If a declaration of nullity is granted, what type of preparation would you recommend before a new marriage? Please list any recommendations you would advise for professional counseling or therapy or special pastoral care.

6. Are you aware of any other common-law, civil or religious unions of the Petitioner besides the marriage in question? Yes No If YES, please describe.

7. If the Petitioner is in a new relationship, are you aware of any common-law, civil or religious unions of the Petitioner's partner before his/her relationship with the Petitioner?
 Yes No If YES, please describe.

Signature of Pastor/Parish Minister

Date

REFLECTION QUESTIONS – PLEASE ANSWER ON SEPARATE PAGES.

A. ABOUT YOU (PETITIONER)

1. Please describe the home environment in which you grew up. What were your parents like? How many brothers and sisters did you have? Were you the oldest? youngest? in the middle? Include the character of your parents, their relationship with each other and with you and your siblings. Describe any tensions, difficulties or other problems present in the family while you were growing up. How did these problems affect you?
2. Who raised you (mother and/or father, grandparent, stepparent, aunt/uncle, older sibling)? Describe your relationship with each parent/parent figure while growing up (warm/loving; emotionally distant; troubled, etc.). Who was the dominant parent? Was there excessive strictness or permissiveness? Was there any type of abuse in the home? Explain.
3. Please describe the nature of the religious life in your home, if any. How often did you go to Church? Did your family talk about faith in the home? Was religion a positive or negative experience for you growing up, and why was it that way?
4. Is there anything about your employment history or your hobbies that you believe are relevant to your case? Explain.
5. Do you have any history of drug or alcohol abuse, gambling, pornography, or addictions? If so, when did this behavior first begin? Any history of criminal activity, arrest or imprisonment? If so, give dates, offenses, circumstances (exclude minor traffic violations).
6. Have you ever been in individual treatment with a licensed counselor (psychologist, psychiatrist, social worker)? If so, what did you learn from your counseling? What did you learn about yourself? What did you learn about your spouse? Did the counselor give any diagnoses for either you or your spouse? How long did you attend counseling?
7. Did you have any serious relationships BEFORE meeting your spouse*? If so, please describe. *[For each partner, provide the name of the partner and the approximate years you were in relationship with the partner. Did you have sexual relations? Did you ever live together? Were you hoping to marry? If you married and divorced, please provide dates and places. Why did the relationship end?]*
8. Did you have any serious relationships AFTER you and your spouse* were divorced? If so, please describe. *[For each partner, provide the name of the partner and the approximate years you were in relationship with the partner. Did you ever live together? Were you hoping to marry? If you married and divorced, please provide dates and places. Why did the relationship end, or are you still in this relationship?]*

* **Spouse** refers to the husband or wife from the marriage you are asking to be declared invalid.

B. ABOUT YOUR SPOUSE* (RESPONDENT)

9. Please describe the home environment in which your spouse grew up.
What were his/her parents like? How many brothers and sisters did he/she have?
Was he/she the oldest? youngest? in the middle? Include the character of his/her parents, their relationship with each other and with your spouse and your spouse's siblings.
Describe any tensions, difficulties or other problems in the family while your spouse was growing up. How did these problems affect him/her?
10. Who raised your spouse (mother and/or father, grandparent, stepparent, aunt/uncle, older sibling.)? Describe your spouse's relationship with each parent/parent figure while growing up (warm/loving; emotionally distant; troubled, etc.).
Who was the dominant parent? Was there excessive strictness or permissiveness?
Was there any type of abuse in the home? Explain.
11. Please describe the nature of the religious life in your spouse's home, if any.
How often did he/she go to Church? Did his/her family talk about faith in the home? Was religion a positive or negative experience for him/her growing up, and why was it that way?
12. Is there anything about your spouse's employment history or hobbies that you believe are relevant to your case? Explain.
13. Does your spouse have any history of drug or alcohol abuse, gambling, pornography, or other addictions? If so, when did this behavior first begin? When did you become aware of it?
Any history of criminal activity, arrest or imprisonment? If so, give dates, offenses, circumstances (exclude minor traffic violations).
14. Has your spouse ever been in individual treatment with a licensed counselor (psychologist, psychiatrist, social worker)? If so, what did he/she learn from his/her counseling? What did he/she learn about himself/herself? What did you learn about your spouse? Did the counselor give any diagnoses for either you or your spouse? How long was your spouse in counseling?
15. Did your spouse have any serious relationships BEFORE meeting you? If so, please describe. *[For each partner, provide the name of the partner and the approximate years he/she was in relationship with the partner. Did they have sexual relations? Did they ever live together? Were they hoping to marry? If they married and divorced, please provide dates and places. Why did the relationship end?]*
16. Did your spouse have any serious relationships AFTER you and your spouse were divorced? If so, please describe. *[For each partner, provide the name of the partner and the approximate years he/she was in relationship with the person. Did they ever live together? Were they hoping to marry? If they married and divorced, please provide dates and places. Why did the relationship end, or are they still in this relationship?]*

* **Spouse** refers to the husband or wife from the marriage you are asking to be declared invalid.

C. ABOUT THE COURTSHIP

17. How did you meet? How old were you? How old was your spouse? Were you living with your parents, on your own or with roommates? Was your spouse living with parents, on his/her own or with roommates? How and why did you begin dating? How would you describe the quality of your relationship while you were dating? Were you or your spouse dating other people at the same time? During the dating period, would you describe yourself as faithful? During the dating period, would you describe your spouse as faithful?

18. Did you engage in sexual relations with your spouse prior to any kind of marriage?
 No Yes If NO, go to question 19.

Whose idea was it? Why did you choose to do so? Why did your spouse choose to do so? How would you describe the quality of your relationship after you began having sexual relations? Did you discuss the possibility of pregnancy? Did you take any steps to avoid pregnancy? Did your spouse take any steps to avoid a pregnancy? Was there a pregnancy prior to marriage? Once you began having sexual relations, would you describe yourself as faithful? Once you began having sexual relations, would you describe your spouse as faithful?

19. Did you live together before any kind of marriage? No Yes If NO, go to question 20.

Whose idea was it to live together? Why did you choose to do so? Why did your spouse choose to do so? Did you share the household with others? How would you describe the quality of your relationship while you were living together before any kind of marriage? During the time you lived together before any kind of marriage, would you describe yourself as faithful? During the time you lived together before any kind of marriage, would you describe your spouse as faithful? How did your family feel about you living together outside of marriage? How did your spouse's family feel about living together outside of marriage? Did you consider living together a kind of "trial" marriage? How long did you live together prior to marriage?

20. Before any kind of marriage, how would you describe your spouse's character?

21. Before any kind of marriage, did you discuss your expectations for the marriage?
Please explain.

22. Before any kind of marriage, did you discuss your spouse's expectations for the marriage?
Please explain.

23. Before any kind of marriage, did you discuss the possibility of children? Before any kind of marriage, did you discuss the possibility of using contraception? Please explain.

24. Before any kind of marriage, did you discuss the possibility of divorce? Were there any reasons you or your spouse thought divorce would be acceptable? Please explain.

* **Spouse** refers to the husband or wife from the marriage you are asking to be declared invalid.

C. ABOUT THE COURTSHIP (continued)

25. Was there an “engagement” period when others knew you were planning to marry?

No Yes

If NO, please explain why was there no “engagement” period, then go to question 26.

If YES, How long was the engagement period? _____

How would you describe the quality of your relationship during the engagement?

During the engagement, would you describe yourself as faithful?

During the engagement, would you describe your spouse as faithful?

How did your family feel about the engagement?

How did your spouse’s family feel about the engagement?

Did either of your family members express any reservations about the marriage?

26. Were either you or your spouse a baptized Catholic prior to any kind of marriage?

No Yes If NO, go to question 27.

If YES, Did you first marry in a non-Catholic ceremony? No Yes

If NO, go to question 27.

Whose idea was it to marry in the non-Catholic ceremony? Why did you choose to do so? Why did your spouse choose to do so? Did you or your spouse experience any internal or external pressure to get married? If so, explain the nature and source of the pressure (e.g., parents, pregnancy, etc.).

Was there a reason you did not want to marry in the Catholic Church?

Was there a reason your spouse did not want to marry in the Catholic Church?

Did you consider the non-Catholic marriage a kind of “trial” marriage? Please explain.

Was there a hope that you would later marry in the Catholic Church?

Describe the planning for the non-Catholic ceremony. Who took responsibility for the planning? Who made the decisions regarding the planning? Were there any conflicts during the preparation?

How would you describe the quality of your relationship during the non-Catholic marriage?

During the non-Catholic marriage, would you describe yourself as faithful?

During the non-Catholic marriage, would you describe your spouse as faithful?

How did your family feel about the marriage outside of the Catholic Church?

How did your spouse’s family feel about the marriage outside of the Catholic Church?

Whose idea was it to later marry in the Catholic Church? Why did you choose to do so?

Why did your spouse choose to do so?

Note: For questions 27-40, if you married in a non-Catholic ceremony and later married in the Catholic Church, please respond to the questions regarding the marriage in the Catholic Church.

D. ABOUT THE MARRIAGE IN QUESTION

27. Did you or your spouse experience any internal or external pressure to get married?
If so, explain the nature and source of the pressure (e.g., parents, pregnancy).
28. Was there anything unusual or remarkable happening at the time you decided to marry (e.g., illness or death in family, change in job or financial status, relocation, crime, change in a major relationship in your life, emotional or psychological upheaval)? If so, explain.
29. Whose idea was it to get married? What were your main reasons for entering the marriage? What were your spouse's main reasons?
30. Describe the planning for marriage ceremony. Who took responsibility for the planning? Who made the decisions? Were there any conflicts during the preparation?
31. Did you feel accepted by your spouse's family? Did your spouse feel accepted by your family? Did either of your family members express any reservations about the marriage?
32. Did anything unusual or remarkable happen at the wedding rehearsal, rehearsal dinner, ceremony or honeymoon? If so, explain.
33. How would you describe the quality of your relationship during the marriage?
34. During the marriage, how would you describe your spouse's character?
Were there any particular qualities of your spouse that you did not know about before you married? If you had known about these qualities before, would you still have married?
35. Was there any sense of regret about getting married? When did these feelings begin?
36. What issues were a source of conflict between you? When did these issues and/or problems first surface? How did you deal with them?
37. If there were no children born of the marriage, explain why. How did this affect your relationship?
38. Were there any temporary separations during the marriage? If so, please explain the causes, circumstances, approximate dates, duration and reasons for reconciliation. What specific events, difficulties and/or circumstances led to your final separation?
39. Give a detailed explanation of what you believe to be the major reason(s) for the breakup of the marriage.
40. Please provide any other information that you believe is relevant to your case.

E. FINAL QUESTIONS

41. Are you currently civilly married to anyone? No Yes

If NO, go to question 42.

If YES, what is the name of your current civil spouse?

If your current civil spouse has prior marriages, they may need to be resolved before you marry in the Catholic Church. Please see your Pastor or ask for help from the Tribunal.

Are you or your current civil spouse presently in the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) also known as RCIA? Yes No

If YES, please specify the name of the parish.

Go to question 43.

42. Are you hoping to marry in the Catholic Church? No Yes

If NO, go to question 43.

If YES, what is the name of your fiancé/fiancée?

If your fiancé/fiancée has prior marriages, they may need to be resolved before you marry in the Catholic Church. Please see your Pastor or ask for help from the Tribunal.

Are you or your fiancé/fiancée presently in the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) also known as RCIA? Yes No

If YES, please specify the name of the parish.

43. Do you have any questions you would like someone from the Tribunal to discuss with you?

44. Would you like a referral to a Pastor or Parish Minister near you? Yes No