

ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE

Groom..... Bride.....

(N.B. When it is impossible to procure the Baptismal Record, or when there is not sufficient evidence about a party's freedom to marry, two reliable witnesses must separately fill out this affidavit in the presence of a priest.)

AFFIDAVIT OF RELIABLE WITNESSES CONCERNING THE BAPTISM AND (OR) FREE STATE OF

Name of party to marriage:.....

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Do you believe in the sanctity of an oath?.....
2. (*Touching the Gospels*) Do you solemnly swear to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth in answering the following questions?.....
3. Your name?..... Address?.....
Date and place of your birth?..... Occupation?.....
Your religion?..... Do you practice it faithfully?.....
4. Have you been coached in any way regarding the testimony you are to give?.....
In what did this coaching consist?.....
5. What is your relationship to the person whose name appears above?.....
How long have you known this person?.....
How closely were you associated with this person?.....
6. Do you know the person whose name appears above to be honest and truthful?.....

CONCERNING BAPTISM

7. Was the person whose name appears above ever Baptized?.....
In what religion?..... Date and place of Baptism?.....
Were you present at this Baptism?..... If not, how do you know of this Baptism?.....
.....
Name of the minister of this Baptism?.....
8. Was the above-mentioned person ever confirmed?..... How do you know?.....

CONCERNING FREE STATE

9. Has the above-mentioned person ever been married or attempted marriage, even civilly?..... How many times?.....
Give the important facts regarding each marriage.....
.....
Is the bond of this (these) marriage(s) still existing?.....
If not, how did it cease?.....

10. Is the above-mentioned person related to the other party to this marriage either by blood or by marriage?
11. Is the above-mentioned person bound by any civil or ecclesiastical impediment which would prevent the coming marriage being lawful or valid.....
12. Is the above mentioned person entering this marriage freely and without compulsion of any kind?.....
13. Does the above-mentioned person sufficiently understand the obligations of marriage?.....
14. Have the parents of the above-mentioned person been consulted about this coming marriage?
- Have they given their consent? If not, do you consider the parents unreasonable in refusing consent?.....
- Why?.....
15. Whom does the above-mentioned person intend to marry?.....
- Do you know of any impediments to marriage which bind this other party?.....
16. Do you now affix your signature in testimony of the truth of all the above answers, realizing that you are under oath?.....

DATE:.....

.....
Signature of Affiant

I, the undersigned priest, do hereby testify that the person whose signature is affixed above answered the above questions and affixed his signature in my presense, and that I consider the affiant trustworthy.

.....
Priest's Signature

(SEAL)

Parish:..... Address:.....

REMARKS:.....
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N.B. This affidavit is to be kept as part of the permanent file of the marriage in the parish archives of the place of contract in accord with the Instruction of the Sacred Congregation of the Sacraments, June 29, 1941.