



Diocese of Colorado Springs

228 North Cascade Avenue

Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903-1498

Telephone 719/636-2345 - FAX 719/866-6474 (*Tribunal Only*)

FORMAL PETITION FOR DECLARATION OF NULLITY

QUESTIONNAIRE Instructions for the Petitioner

1. Please read the Information Summary BEFORE answering the questionnaire. Remember that this Information Summary is a guide to help you submit a good petition for a declaration of nullity.
2. When working on the questionnaire, please begin by filling in all of the necessary information on pages 1 through 4 - print or type all responses carefully and completely.
3. Section "C" on page 5 is the most important part of the questionnaire. You must determine the reason(s) why your marriage was not valid and you must prove it/them. You may need to work with the Tribunal staff or your Advocate (an Advocate will be assigned to assist you, if necessary) to make this determination. Once you have determined the reason(s) why your marriage was not valid, you must report the facts/incidents/occurrences that prove this/these reason(s) truly existed (a good guideline is to identify 20 to 30 facts/incidents/occurrences). You must report your story in a single essay of 5 to 7 pages (TYPED - no more than 10 pages) that proves your marriage was not valid. The questions in sections D through O have been provided to help you think of relevant issues that could help to prove your allegations.
4. DO NOT simply put together a report that answers one question at a time or that includes only "yes" or "no" answers. Testimony of this type will be REJECTED.
5. Be sure that the proofs you include in your testimony are detailed, thorough, complete and relevant.
6. Lastly, when you have completed your testimony/summary, attach section "P" to it for your signature. Before an authorized witness, initial the pages of your testimony/summary and sign the Signature Page.
7. Do not discuss your answers with anyone (including your present partner – if applicable) as this could jeopardize the case. Also, please be aware that your present partner is not a part of these proceedings.
8. Please consult "**Information Summary**" and/or "**Document Summary**" and/or "**Canonical Process for Nullity of Marriage**" – they are very helpful. Make copies of everything you intend to submit.
9. **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS – Your Petition cannot proceed if any of these are missing**
 - A. Petition (signature must be witnessed as indicated)
 - B. Witnessed Questionnaire (Information/Allegations/History of the marriage and Witness List)
 - C. Certified copies of:
 1. Petitioner Baptismal Certificate (required if Catholic)
 2. Respondent Baptismal Certificate (if possible)
 3. Marriage Certificate
 4. Civil Divorce/Dissolution/Annulment Decree
 5. All documentation from other/previous marriages and divorces/annulments
10. **FILING FEE** – a Filing Fee of \$25.00 must accompany your completed package of documents.

OFFICE OF THE JUDICIAL VICAR

Rev. Msgr. Ricardo Coronado-Arrascue, J.C.D.