

<b>Office Use Only</b>	Date Rec'd: .....
Case Name: .....	
Case #: .....	



## REQUEST FOR A DISSOLUTION OF THE BOND IN FAVOR OF THE FAITH

DIOCESE OF MADISON-TRIBUNAL · 702 S. High Point Road, Suite 225 · Madison, WI 53719-4926 · 608-821-3060 · tribunal@madisondiocese.org

*This form must be filled out completely (please print or type), including information regarding the other party. If the other party is truly impossible to locate, please attach a record of your attempts at locating him/her.*

<b>PETITIONER (YOU)</b>	<b>OTHER PARTY</b>
Current name: .....	Current name: .....
Maiden name (if applicable): .....	Maiden name (if applicable): .....
Present address: .....	Present address: .....
City: ..... State: ..... Zip: .....	City: ..... State: ..... Zip: .....
Telephone: .....	Telephone: .....
E-mail: .....	E-mail: .....
Date of birth: ..... City: .....	Date of birth: ..... City: .....
Baptized? Yes No If so, date: .....	Baptized? Yes No If so, date: .....
Church of baptism: .....	Church of baptism: .....
City: ..... State: ..... Zip: .....	City: ..... State: ..... Zip: .....
Age at time of marriage: .....	Age at time of marriage: .....
Your religion at time of marriage: .....	His/her religion at time of marriage: .....
Your religion currently: .....	His/her religion currently: .....

<b>CONCERNING THE RELATIONSHIP</b>	
Date when courtship began: .....	Length of courtship prior to engagement: .....
Date of engagement: .....	Length of engagement prior to marriage: .....
Date of marriage: .....	Length of marriage prior to divorce: .....
Church or place of marriage: .....	
Address of church or place of marriage: .....	
City: ..... State: ..... Zip: .....	
Minister or officiant of marriage: .....	Denomination (if applicable): .....
If a civil marriage, was it ever “blessed” / “validated” in the Catholic Church? Yes No If so, where: .....	
Date of separation: .....	Date of divorce: ..... County, state of divorce: .....

**CHILDREN BORN OF THIS MARRIAGE**

Name: ..... Date of birth: .....  
Name: ..... Date of birth: .....  
Name: ..... Date of birth: .....  
Name: ..... Date of birth: .....

*Please attach additional sheets as needed.  
A dissolution of the marriage bond does not make children who were born during the marriage illegitimate.*

Have you or the other party ever petitioned for a declaration of nullity of this marriage before any ecclesiastical tribunal? Yes No If so, where: .....

**INFORMATION REGARDING OTHER MARRIAGES**

Was this the first marriage for both of you? .....  Yes  No

*Please indicate any other marriages contracted by either party, whether before or after the marriage in question. If more space is needed, please include those marriages on a separate sheet.*

**PETITIONER**       **OTHER PARTY**

Spouse: ..... Check all that apply below:  
Religion of spouse: .....  If Catholic decree of nullity, protocol #: .....  
Date of marriage: ..... Location: .....  If former spouse is dead, give date of death: .....  
Was this marriage ever validated in the Catholic Church? .....  If civil divorce, give date of divorce: .....

**PETITIONER**       **OTHER PARTY**

Spouse: ..... Check all that apply below:  
Religion of spouse: .....  If Catholic decree of nullity, protocol #: .....  
Date of marriage: ..... Location: .....  If former spouse is dead, give date of death: .....  
Was this marriage ever validated in the Catholic Church? .....  If civil divorce, give date of divorce: .....

**PETITIONER**       **OTHER PARTY**

Spouse: ..... Check all that apply below:  
Religion of spouse: .....  If Catholic decree of nullity, protocol #: .....  
Date of marriage: ..... Location: .....  If former spouse is dead, give date of death: .....  
Was this marriage ever validated in the Catholic Church? .....  If civil divorce, give date of divorce: .....

*For each marriage, please enclose, if applicable, a certified civil marriage license, death certificate, divorce decree, and Catholic declaration of nullity.*

**INFORMATION REGARDING THE MARRIAGE TO BE DISSOLVED**

*By requesting a dissolution of the bond in favor of the faith, you are asking the Roman Pontiff to dissolve your non-sacramental marriage in order that you may enter a second marriage. The faithful in the Church have no right to obtain such a dissolution of the bond; rather, the exercise of this power by the Pope is a favor which can only be granted in some circumstances, having taken into account the pastoral needs of times and places. Consequently, a request for a dissolution of the bond in favor of the faith must include some basic facts about the marriage to be dissolved. The information you provide should usually not be longer than 5 pages in length. Based on the information you provide, the bishop's delegate(s) will ask follow-up questions which deal specifically with your case.*

Please provide the following information on type-written sheets of paper:

1. Basic details about how you and the other party met;
2. Basic details surrounding the courtship, the decision to marry, and the day of the wedding;
3. Basic details about the practice of faith during the marriage;
4. Basic details about why the marriage failed, especially regarding who caused the breakdown of the marriage;
5. Additional information which you think will be useful for the bishop's delegate(s).

**WITNESSES CONCERNING THE MARRIAGE TO BE DISSOLVED**

*In order to demonstrate that your marriage fulfills those conditions required for the possibility of obtaining a dissolution of the bond in favor of the faith, you must provide witnesses who can attest to your character, to the facts regarding the breakdown of the marriage, and to the non-baptism of one of the parties. You should contact these witnesses in advance to ensure that they are willing to testify and to inform them that the bishop's delegate(s) will be contacting them. The pace of the process is often connected to the responses of the witnesses.*

**CHARACTER WITNESSES**

*Witnesses are needed to testify to the honesty, integrity, and reliability of the Petitioner.*

<b>WITNESS # 1</b>	<b>WITNESS # 2</b>
Name: .....	Name: .....
Address: .....	Address: .....
City ..... State ..... Zip .....	City ..... State ..... Zip .....
Telephone: .....	Telephone: .....
E-mail: .....	E-mail: .....
Date of birth: .....	Date of birth: .....
Relationship to the parties: .....	Relationship to the parties: .....

**WITNESSES TO THE BREAKDOWN OF THE MARRIAGE**

*Witnesses are needed who have firsthand knowledge of the reasons for the failure of the marriage and can testify to those facts.*

<b>WITNESS # 3</b>	<b>WITNESS # 4</b>
Name: .....	Name: .....
Address: .....	Address: .....
City ..... State ..... Zip .....	City ..... State ..... Zip .....
Telephone: .....	Telephone: .....
E-mail: .....	E-mail: .....
Date of birth: .....	Date of birth: .....
Relationship to the parties: .....	Relationship to the parties: .....



