



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN DELAWARE

Bishop's Consent to the Solemnization of a Remarriage Guidelines for Clergy

The application for consent of the bishop required under Title I, Canon 19, sec. 3(c) shall be made by the member of the clergy who will officiate at the proposed wedding. When the officiating minister is not canonically resident holding a pastoral cure, the application must be accompanied by the endorsement of such a minister who certifies that these guidelines have been met. The cleric's consultation with the bishop shall be made in writing and no sooner than one year after the divorce in the previous marriage was finalized.

Each application for consent shall consist of (1) the Consent Summary Form and (2) a cover letter from the officiant to include the following:

1. A statement that he or she has met with both parties to the proposed marriage, or, if not, a description of the alternative to such a meeting, and that the Declaration of Intention (I.18.4) has been signed;
2. A statement that all final divorce decrees have been seen personally and the date of each final decree noted;
3. A statement that the minister is satisfied that adequate "continuing concern" is demonstrated for former spouse(s) and for any children (I.19.3(b));
4. A statement that all other requirements of I.18 and I.19 not already mentioned have been met;
5. A statement that no other minister of this church has declined to solemnize the proposed marriage; or, if a minister of this church has so declined to solemnize, a statement that the applying minister has consulted with that minister, including reasons for application in light of that consultation.
6. In the case where either party has had a second divorce, the application for the Bishop's consent shall not be made (a) unless one year has passed since the final divorce decree, (b) unless both parties to the proposed marriage have sought and received professional marriage counseling, and (c) until the counselor has reported to the minister the belief that the two persons asking for permission to marry are in the opinion of the counselor adequately prepared for a lifelong union.

When consent has been given in another jurisdiction for a marriage in Delaware, the Bishop of Delaware will affirm the consent, provided these guidelines have been followed, or that exceptions to them have his approval.

The solemnization of any marriage under I.19 shall be reported to the bishop within 30 days after the wedding.



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Bishop's Consent to Solemnization of a Remarriage Consent Summary Form

Date of Proposed Marriage	
Place of Proposed Marriage	
Officiant Requesting Consent	

Name
Address
Gender
Marital Status
Date of Birth
Church Affiliation
Date of Divorce(s)
Number of Proposed Marriage
Number of Children

Name
Address
Gender
Marital Status
Date of Birth
Church Affiliation
Date of Divorce(s)
Number of Proposed Marriage
Number of Children

Officiants Signature

Date

Bishop's Consent

Date
