

# The Episcopal Diocese of Montana

## Petition for Permission to Officiate at the Marriage of a Person or Persons Previously Married

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To: The Bishop of Montana  
Episcopal Diocese of Montana  
PO Box 2020  
Helena MT 59624

I hereby request permission to officiate at the marriage described below in accordance with General Convention Title I, Canon 19, Section 3 (Of Regulations Respecting Holy Matrimony: Concerning Preservation of Marriage, Dissolution of Marriage, and Remarriage).

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Signature of Clergy

Date

**Prospective Bride:**

**Prospective Groom:**

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Name:

Name:

Previously married?                      Yes ( ) No ( )

Previously married?                      Yes ( ) No ( )

If yes, has evidence of dissolution  
of this marriage been presented?  
If so, what?

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of this marriage been presented?  
If so, what?

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Has instruction been given to both parties with regard to the continuing concern that must be shown for the well-being of the former spouse and children (if any) of the prior marriages(s) Yes ( ) No ( )

Please describe:

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Proposed date of marriage: \_\_\_\_\_ Proposed location: \_\_\_\_\_

Provide details below, or on a separate page, supporting your request for approval of this Petition:

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**Please send this request to the Bishop of Montana at the address above at least 30 days before the proposed date of the marriage.**

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**General Convention Title I, Canon 19, Section 3:**

No Member of the Clergy of this Church shall solemnize the marriage of any person who has been the husband or wife of any other person then living, nor shall any member of this Church enter into marriage when either of the contracting parties has been the husband or wife of any other person then living, except as hereinafter provided:

- a. The Member of the Clergy shall be satisfied by appropriate evidence that the prior marriage has been annulled or dissolved by a final judgment or decree of a civil court of competent jurisdiction.
- b. The Member of the Clergy shall have instructed the parties that continuing concern must be shown for the well-being of the former spouse, and of any children of the prior marriage.
- c. The Member of the Clergy shall consult with and obtain the consent of the Bishop of the Diocese wherein the Member of the Clergy is canonically resident, or the Bishop of the Diocese in which the Member of the Clergy is licensed to officiate prior to, and shall report to that Ecclesiastical Authority, the solemnization of any marriage under this Section.
- d. If the proposed marriage is to be solemnized in a jurisdiction other than the one in which the consent has been given, the consent shall be affirmed by the Bishop of that jurisdiction