



# The Episcopal Church in Wyoming

Application to the Bishop seeking **Consent for Re-Marriage** in the Episcopal Church - Canonical Reference: Canons of the General Convention: Title I: Canons 18,19

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On \_\_\_\_\_ I, \_\_\_\_\_ received notice for this couple to be married  
(date) (name of Clergy person)

in \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.  
(name of church) (date)

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## **To the Couple Seeking Consent:**

When two people come to the Church seeking its blessing at the celebration of their marriage, it is our understanding that they are then inviting the Church to be a participant in their marital union. Accepting this invitation, we seek to instruct them as to the nature, meaning, and purpose of Holy Matrimony as Christians understand it following the model given us by the relationship between Christ and His Church. Further, we offer, as a community of faith and love, to support them in their marriage in the years ahead.

Following the Canons of the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, the Clergy person who is to solemnize the marriage of a divorced person is required to consult with, and obtain the consent of, the Bishop of the Diocese prior to the wedding ceremony.

The purpose of this application is to ascertain the intention of the couple with regard to their relationship to the Church, that the Bishop might give his consent in good conscience.

Note: The Bishop feels most comfortable in granting approval for a clergy person to preside at the re-marriage of an individual for whom the proposed wedding date is not within one year of the finalization of the prior divorce.

As soon as a clergy person becomes aware that the proposed wedding date falls within that one-year window, it is incumbent upon the clergy person to consult with the Bishop before proceeding with any further conversation with the couple.

***Please complete and send to the Bishop's Office Attn: Jessica Reynolds at least eight weeks prior to the anticipated wedding.***



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## ***To be completed by Couple***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Baptized: \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No Denomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Active Member of a Church: \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Was there a previous marriage? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

If yes, please continue:

Date(s) of Previous Marriage(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Place(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) and Place(s) of Divorce Decree(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Child(ren) by Previous Marriage(s) \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No: Ages: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you, as ***Clergyperson***, examined the Legal Documents of the Divorce Decree(s)

\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Clergyperson)

Does an obligation exist regarding the well-being of the former spouse(s) and child(ren)?

\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

If **yes**, are these responsibilities being carried out? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Will they continue? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Baptized: \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No Denomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Active Member of a Church: \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Was there a previous marriage? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

If Yes: please continue:

Date(s) of Previous Marriage(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Place(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) and Place(s) of Divorce Decree(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Child(ren) by Previous Marriage(s) \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No: Ages: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you, as *Clergyperson*, examined the Legal Documents of the Divorce Decree(s)

\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Clergyperson)

Does an obligation exist regarding the well-being of the former spouse(s) and child(ren)?  
\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

If yes, are these responsibilities being carried out? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Will they continue? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

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## ***To Be Completed by Clergyperson***

How long have these two persons known each other? \_\_\_\_\_

Does the couple intend a Christian Marriage as it is described in the Canons and celebrated in the Rite of Marriage? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Is this couple capable of carrying out this intention? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Has this couple been instructed (or can you ascertain that they have been instructed) regarding the nature, obligation, and purpose of Holy Matrimony? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No



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\_\_\_\_\_  
*Clergyperson's signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Church*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

***In consultation with the Clergyperson, the Couple fill out the following:***

When relationships fail, the failure is rarely one-sided. Please affirm by your signatures below that a frank and honest conversation regarding your part in the failure of your previous marriage, has been held by both parties in the presence of the Clergyperson.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Clergyperson*

As a couple, please describe what role you see the Church playing in your new relationship, and how do you plan to participate in the life of the Church?



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***To be answered by the Clergy person who has counseled this couple:***

If one or both of the parties has been married and divorced twice, what in your opinion will make this proposed marriage different from the previous ones?

Clergy person's additional comments, if any.

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***The following declaration is to be signed by BOTH persons of the intended marriage:***

We, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ desiring to receive the blessing of Holy Matrimony in the church, do solemnly declare that we hold marriage to be a lifelong union of as it is set forth in the Book of Common Prayer.

We believe that our union will be the joining of heart, body and mind, intended by God for our mutual joy; for the help and comfort given one another in prosperity and adversity.

And we do engage ourselves, so far as in us lies, to make our utmost effort to establish this relationship and to seek God's help thereto.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_