



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO Office of the COUNTY CLERK

Diane Rea
County Clerk

DEPUTY MARRIAGE COMMISSIONER
ONE TIME DEPUTIZATION POLICY

If you are interested in becoming a Deputy Marriage Commissioner for a day, please see the restrictions below for this process:

Deputization will only be granted on a San Francisco County issued marriage license.

A photocopy of the marriage license must be presented at time of deputization.

1. Must appear in person at the Office of the County Clerk with valid legal photo identification.
2. Must be at least 18 years old.
3. California residency is not a requirement.
4. Must be fluent in the English language.
5. Applicant will be required to take the oath of office swearing/affirming to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California.
6. Marriage ceremony must be performed in California for the specific couple and date listed on the oath.
7. Deputy Marriage Commissioners for a Day are not City officials and do not speak for the City. They must adhere to statutory requirements concerning the solemnization of marriages, but the City does not otherwise control the content of marriage ceremonies they perform.
8. Deputization service is offered on a walk-in basis Monday - Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Deputizations are not offered on Fridays.
9. Fee is \$171.00* payable to SF County Clerk.
10. Process takes approximately 30 minutes.

The Office of the County Clerk has a right to refuse deputization of a person should the office feel that the person is unable to complete the paperwork correctly.

The deputization process is an optional service granted by some counties. Counties are not required to provide this service. Should you not meet the requirements above, you should try contacting other counties to inquire about their policies.

*Fee subject to change.



**INSTRUCTION PACKET FOR DEPUTY MARRIAGE COMMISSIONER
Sworn-in for One Ceremony Only**

Congratulations on becoming a Deputy Marriage Commissioner. **Your commission is valid for ONE civil ceremony only as stated on your oath of office to be performed in the State of California.**

Deputy Marriage Commissioners cannot accept money or anything of value for performing a marriage on a day other than a legal holiday or weekend, or will be in violation of Penal Code 70.5. Solemnizing a marriage without first being presented with a California marriage license, willfully making a false statement on a marriage license to the County Clerk, or failing to file a license within 10 days of marriage, is a misdemeanor under Penal Code 360.

On the day of the ceremony, prior to officiating, the couple must provide you with a valid San Francisco County issued marriage license.

Attached are instructions for completing the License and Certificate of Marriage (VS-117) and the Confidential License and Certificate of Marriage (VS-123), whichever is applicable.

After the marriage, it is your responsibility to return the license to the proper agency:

If **PUBLIC (VS-117)** return to:

**Assessor-Recorder
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
City Hall, Room 190
San Francisco, CA 94102-4698**

If **CONFIDENTIAL (VS-123)** return to:

**County Clerk
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
City Hall, Room 168
San Francisco, CA 94102-4678**

Also, for your convenience, we have included copies of standard civil ceremony vows used by the San Francisco County Clerk’s Office. If you use other ceremony vows, both parties must declare in your presence when solemnizing the marriage that they take each other as husband/wife and husband/wife or spouses for life. You are required to end the ceremony with the declaration “by virtue of the authority vested in me by the State of California, I now pronounce you husband/wife and husband/wife [spouses for life].”

If you have any questions regarding the ceremony or completion of the license, please contact our office by visiting our website at sfgov.org/countyclerk or by phone at (415) 554-4950.

Please complete the following:

Name of Person to be Deputized:		Phone Number:
1 st Person’s Name:		
2 nd Person’s Name:		
Date of Ceremony:	Location:	

Deputization service is not available on Fridays. Fee: \$171.00* (subject to change)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE (Form VS-117)

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS: Use dark ink (black ink preferred). **DO NOT** alter, strikeover, write over, erase, or cover with correction fluid/tape any writing, typing or pre-printed lettering on the license. All entries must fit in the boxes. Do not write/type on or across the lines of the form.

IF LICENSE IS COMPLETED INCORRECTLY, IT CANNOT BE ACCEPTED FOR REGISTRATION. AN AFFIDAVIT AND A FEE IS REQUIRED FOR A DUPLICATE MARRIAGE LICENSE.

Verify Prior to the Ceremony:

Boxes 1A, B, C & 12A, B, C Parties to be married are those listed on the license
Box 25B License has not expired

First Witness Completes the Following: Only 1 witness is required.

Box 26A Witness 1 signature
Box 26B Print or type name of witness
Box 26C Address, City, State and Zip Code

Second Witness Completes the Following: (Optional)

Box 27A Witness 2 signature
Box 27B Print or type name of witness
Box 27C Address, City, State, and Zip Code

Deputy Marriage Commissioner Completes the Following: Do not write in any boxes outside the "Certification of Person Solemnizing Marriage" Section.

Box 28A Date of Ceremony in this format: mm/dd/yyyy (numeric and slashes only, **DO NOT USE DASHES**)
Box 28B Type or print the city or town
Box 28C Type or print the **California** County where the ceremony took place
Box 29A Signature of Deputy Marriage Commissioner
Box 29B Type or write – (**single dash**)
Box 29C Type or print your name as you were sworn on your Oath
Box 29D Official title is Deputy Marriage Commissioner. Title may be abbreviated to **Dep. Marr. Comm.** **DO NOT USE ANY OTHER OFFICIAL TITLE YOU MAY HAVE.**
Box 29E Type or print your complete mailing address using street number and name or P. O. Box Number, City, State and Zip/Postal Code

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE OF CONFIDENTIAL MARRIAGE (Form VS-123)

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS: Use dark ink (black ink preferred). **DO NOT** alter, strikeover, write over, erase, or cover with correction fluid/tape any writing, typing or pre-printed lettering on the license. All entries must fit in the boxes. Do not write/type on or across the lines of the form.

IF LICENSE IS COMPLETED INCORRECTLY, IT CANNOT BE ACCEPTED FOR REGISTRATION. AN AFFIDAVIT AND A FEE IS REQUIRED FOR A DUPLICATE MARRIAGE LICENSE.

Verify Prior to the Ceremony:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Boxes 1A, B, C & 12A, B, C | Parties to be married are those listed on the license |
| Box 25B | License has not expired |

Deputy Marriage Commissioner Completes the Following: Do not write in any boxes outside the "Certification of Person Solemnizing Marriage" Section.

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Box 27A | Date of Ceremony in this format: mm/dd/yyyy (numeric and slashes only, DO NOT USE DASHES) |
| Box 27B | Type or print the city or town |
| Box 27C | Type or print the California County where the ceremony took place |
| Box 28A | Signature of Deputy Marriage Commissioner |
| Box 28B | Type or write – (single dash). |
| Box 28C | Type or print your name as you were sworn on your Oath. |
| Box 28D | Official title is Deputy Marriage Commissioner. Title may be abbreviated to Dep. Marr. Comm. DO NOT USE ANY OTHER OFFICIAL TITLE YOU MAY HAVE. |
| Box 28E | Type or print your complete mailing address using street number and name or P. O. Box Number, City, State and Zip/Postal Code |

MARRIAGE VOWS (short)

We are gathered here [in the presence of witnesses] for the purpose of uniting in matrimony _____ and _____.

The contract of marriage is most solemn and is not to be entered into lightly, but thoughtfully and seriously with a deep realization of its obligations and responsibilities.

Please remember that love, loyalty and understanding are the foundations of a happy and enduring home.

No other human ties are more tender and no other vows more important than those you are about to pledge.

Please face each other and join hands.

Do you _____, take _____, to be your lawful wedded wife [spouse]? Do you promise to love her/him and comfort her/him, honor her/him and keep her/him in sickness and in health, for richer and for poorer, for better or for worse and be faithful to her/him as long as you both shall live?

Do you _____, take _____, to be your lawful wedded husband [spouse]? Do you promise to love him/her and comfort him/her, honor him/her and keep him/her in sickness and in health, for richer and for poorer, for better or for worse and be faithful to him/her as long as you both shall live?

RING CEREMONY (OPTIONAL)

_____/_____, the ring please. Place the ring on her/his left ring finger and repeat after me, "I give you this ring, in token and pledge of my constant faith and abiding love. With this ring, I thee wed." (Repeat for Spouse 2)

Now that you have joined yourselves in matrimony, may you strive all your lives to meet this commitment with the same love and devotion that you now possess.

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the State of California, I now pronounce you Husband and Wife [Spouses for Life].

**San Francisco County Clerk
CIVIL CEREMONY MARRIAGE VOWS**

We are gathered here in the presence of witnesses for the purpose of uniting in matrimony _____ and _____.

The contract of marriage is most solemn and is not to be entered into lightly, but thoughtfully and seriously with a deep realization of its obligations and responsibilities.

_____, no other words of mine or any other person truly marry each of you to the other. That is done when you exchange your promises and commit yourselves to this marriage and each other.

By entering into this marriage, you are pledging yourselves to a lifetime in which each will enrich the life of the other. You will be partners standing together to cushion the difficulties of life. Rejoice in your partner's graces. Nurture your marriage carefully and watch it grow gracefully. Marriage is a point of honor. Marriage is a full time job.

Please face each other and join hands.

Do you _____, take _____, to be your lawful wedded spouse? To have and to hold from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health; to love and to cherish as long as you both shall live? (Repeat for Spouse 2)

RING CEREMONY(OPTIONAL)

_____, the ring please. Place the ring on his/her left ring finger and repeat after me, "I give you this ring, in token and pledge of my constant faith and abiding love. With this ring, I thee wed." (Repeat for Spouse 2)

You have joined yourselves in solemn matrimony. May you strive all your lives to meet this commitment with the same love and devotion that you now possess. For love is truly the greatest gift we are given to share; love's compassion is the glory of life. Delight in each other's company and never take the other for granted, for you are destined to enjoy the blending of your two lives.

And now, in as much as you, _____ and _____ have given and pledged your love and faithfulness, each to the other, and have declared the same by joining hands, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Deputy Marriage Commissioner by the State of California, I now pronounce you spouses for life.

AFFIDAVIT RE: DUPLICATE MARRIAGE LICENSE (CA Family Code 360 and 510)

Pursuant to CA Family Code 360 and 510, if the marriage license is lost, damaged, or destroyed after the marriage ceremony, but prior to registration, or deemed unacceptable for registration as presented due to erasure(s), whiteout(s), and/or alteration(s), an affidavit and fee are required for a duplicate marriage license. The duplicate license may not be issued later than one year after the date of the marriage and shall be returned by the person solemnizing the marriage to the county recorder/clerk within one year of the date of the marriage. **This form must be completed by the officiant/person who performed the ceremony and must be submitted in person or by mail; original/wet signature required, electronic signatures are not acceptable.**

Date of Marriage (Month/Day/Year): _____ **City:** _____ **County:** _____

First Person Full Legal Name: _____

Second Person Full Legal Name: _____

Officiant's Full Legal Name: _____

Religious Denomination/Online Name of Organization: _____
Person's registered with an online organization should enter the organization's full name, i.e., "Universal Life Church" or "American Marriage Ministries" etc. If judge, elected official, or deputy marriage commissioner, enter a single dash " - "

Officiant's Title: _____
i.e., Judge, Minister, Priest, Deputy Marriage Commissioner; For online organizations, enter "Minister"

If Public Marriage License, you must provide the name(s) and address of the witness(es), print witness(es) name(s) and address below as they appear in original license

1st Witness: _____

2nd Witness: _____

I certify that the original License and Certificate of Marriage was presented to me before the marriage ceremony. I understand that the license could not be registered because: **(choose one)**
Marriage License was lost or destroyed after the ceremony: _____
Marriage License was not acceptable for registration as presented due to: _____

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration is executed on _____ day of _____, _____ at _____.
(DAY) (MONTH) (YEAR) (CITY, STATE)

Original/Wet Signature Required: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Please return this completed affidavit along with \$28.00 fee to:
SF County Clerk
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
City Hall, Room 168
San Francisco, CA 94102-4678

By mail payments: Personal check with preprinted account holder name or money order/cashier's check payable to SF County Clerk; No cash payments by mail.

OFFICE USE ONLY: Marriage License Issuance Date: _____ **Marriage License #:** _____

Date Affidavit Processed: _____ **Receipt #:** _____

Duplicate Marriage License Given/Mailed To: _____ **Clerk's Initials:** _____