



Case Name:

Case No.:



COMPLETE BY:

Thank you for being a witness in the above-mentioned case. One of the parties in the trial requested you as a witness in his or her Marriage Nullity Process in the Tribunal of the Diocese of Bridgeport. They were asked to contact you prior to submitting your name, hence this letter should not be a surprise to you. Your participation in the process will be limited to written statements in the form below. On a very rare occasion, a judge may call you for a brief clarification of your statements. Thank you again for your help.

THE WITNESS QUESTIONNAIRE:

This questionnaire is similar to the one given to the parties in this case, and will serve to corroborate their own descriptions of their marriage. Please simply answer the questions to the best of your knowledge without consulting either of the parties or other persons. For example, if the question involves what you would know of the time the parties were dating, and you did not know the parties then, please just indicate "I did not know them at that time." Please do not take sides and answer the questions objectively, truthfully and accurately.

Answer the questions concisely, but as completely as you can, and give examples to illustrate your answers. Please also explain **how and when you came to know the information**, e.g. one of the parties told you during the courtship, you saw or heard the matter yourself, etc. The more facts you are able to provide, the greater assistance you are to the individuals and the Tribunal.

If you need more space, please add additional paper and number the answers accordingly.

THE LANGUAGES:

Since our Diocese of Bridgeport is blessed with the Faithful of various national backgrounds, using the English language, writing skills, or other situations might become an obstacle for you. In a such a situation, kindly indicate this to the Tribunal (203-416-1424: tribunal@diobpt.org) so we can make special arrangements for you.

HOW TO FILL OUT THE FORM:

Since the forms are part of official evidence in the trial, they are required to be typed. Therefore, you are welcome to download this document from our website at:

www.dob-tribunal.com/annulment.html. Please indicate case names and number as above.

Otherwise, please PRINT very clearly with a blue or black pen only.



TRIBUNAL OF THE DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT

238 Jewett Avenue • Bridgeport, Connecticut 06606-2892

203-416-1424 • www.dob-tribunal.com

+The following testimony you are about to give is under the sanctity of an oath+

A: ABOUT YOU:

Your Name:			
Your Address:			
Telephone:	Home:	Work:	Cell:
Date of Birth:		Place of Birth:	
Occupation (Profession):		Religion:	
If registered with a parish, please indicate the parish name and place:			
Your relationship to the husband and wife (e.g., wife's mother, friend, neighbor):			
Did you know the couple before, during, and or after the marriage?	BEFORE: YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
	DURING: YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
	AFTER: YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Has anyone coached you in any way regarding the testimony you are about to give?		YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
This testimony is to aid the examination of the above-referenced matrimonial case according to the laws of the Catholic Church (canon law) and has no civil effects. Do you clearly understand these facts?		YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
How long and how well do you know one or both of the parties to this marriage?		YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Would you describe one or both of them as sincere and truthful?		YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>



B: THE FAMILY BACKGROUNDS OF THE PARTIES AND PERSONAL COMPARISON:

1. Compare the family backgrounds of the husband and wife (whether one or both grew up in a small or large family, in poverty or in comfortable financial circumstances, etc.).
2. Were there any communication/problem-solving issues, instances of divorce, any physical/sexual abuse, alcohol/drug abuse, that you know of in the families of origin of either or both parties? What was their experience of school?
3. Compare the personalities of the husband and wife. What impact did this have on their relationship?
4. Compare the life goals and job history of the husband and wife.



D: MARRIED LIFE:

*When you answer the questions, please try to describe the circumstances at **the beginning, middle and final stage of the marriage.***

15. How did the spouses share feelings and ideas? Was there mutual respect for each other's feelings and opinions? Was decision-making healthy in the marriage? When there were arguments, how were they resolved?

16. How was love and affection expressed between the spouses? Did it seem that there was genuine faithfulness and intimacy in this marriage?

17. Did either spouse or both make a decision not to have children? Was this decision made before or during the marriage? Why were children not wanted? To the best of your knowledge, what means were used to prevent children, and were those means always used? If no children were born to the marriage, why not? Were there any abortions?



TRIBUNAL OF THE DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT

238 Jewett Avenue • Bridgeport, Connecticut 06606-2892

203-416-1424 • www.dob-tribunal.com

21. Is there anything else you would like to add?

NAME of the person giving testimony (PRINT):

Signature of the person giving testimony: _____

Date _____ Place _____

Signature of a Priest, Deacon, Ecclesiastical or Notary Public

Date

If you have received this questionnaire by mail, on this last page, please sign on the line "Signature of person giving testimony." We request that you have your signature witnessed by a Catholic Priest, Deacon, Ecclesiastical Notary or Notary Public. All testimony given by the Petitioner and/or Respondent, as well as their witnesses, can be seen by the Petitioner, Respondent and the Tribunal officials. This right is considered "the right to defense" in case one would like to give additional testimony or a rebuttal. If, because of the sensitivity of the information given, the person would like the information confidential, he/she can give reasons in writing why he/she wishes this information to be kept confidential. The final decision in this matter will remain with the presiding Judge (Canon 1598).

**THE ACTS OF THIS ECCLESIASTICAL PROCESS ARE A RELIGIOUS MATTER
AND HAVE NO EFFECTS IN CIVIL LAW.**