

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF SMYTH COUNTY

Case number _____

IN RE: _____
(first, middle, and last name of petitioner)

PETITION FOR AUTHORITY TO PERFORM MARRIAGES
(for ordained ministers who are actively serving as such)
(No filing fee is required)

Comes now, the Petitioner, pursuant to §20-23 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, seeking authority to perform marriages, and states as follows, to wit:

My full name is _____
(printed first, middle, and last name of petitioner)

My residence address is _____

My mailing address is _____

My home telephone number is _____. My cell phone is _____.

I certify that I have been (check all that may apply):

- ordained as a minister, and proof of my ordination is attached.
- commissioned to pastoral ministry, and proof of my commissioning is attached.
- granted a local minister's license, and a copy of my license is attached.

The expiration date (if any) of my ordination/commissioning/license is _____.

I further certify that I am now serving as a pastor of the following church, and proof is attached:

Name of religious group: _____

Physical address: _____

Mailing address: _____

(Please select a box)

I am seeking this authority to perform marriages generally, not just for one wedding.

OR

I am seeking this authority to perform a specific marriage between _____
and _____ on or about the ___ day of _____ 201__.

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I certify that I have read and understand §20-28 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, which provides as follows:

“If any person knowingly perform the ceremony of marriage without lawful license, or officiate in celebrating the rites of marriage without being authorized by law to do so, he shall be confined in jail not exceeding one year, and fined not exceeding \$500.”

OPTIONAL: Space to provide additional information or an explanation for this request:

I request the Court to grant me the authority to perform marriages in the Commonwealth of Virginia pursuant to §20-23 of the Code of Virginia, and I understand that if such authority is granted, before performing any marriages, I will first be required to appear before the Clerk and post bond, and I further acknowledge that such authority may be rescinded at any time.

Respectfully submitted,

Petitioner