

THE MARRIAGE LAW  
ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Sections

PART I  
PRELIMINARY

1. Short Title
2. Interpretation

PART II  
MARRIAGE

3. Contract of marriage

PART III  
NOTICE OF INTENDED MARRIAGE

4. Notice of intended marriage
5. Filing of Notice
6. Issue of certificates of notice
7. Marriage to be celebrated at earlier date
8. Declaration of parties that there is no impediment

PART IV  
MARRIAGE CEREMONY

9. Marriage Ceremony
10. Refusal to celebrate a marriage
11. Selection of place
12. Marriage certificate

PART V  
CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF  
MARRIAGE-FAULTY MARRIAGES

13. Categories of faulty marriages
14. Voidable marriages
15. Age for marriage
16. Lifting of voidability
17. Void marriages
18. Dissolution or annulment of previous marriage
19. Nonexistent marriages

PART VI  
VOID MARRIAGES

- 20. Application of this Part
- 21. Action for annulment
- 22. Right to file action
- 23. Lifting of annulment
- 24. Result of annulment
- 25. Status of children from annulled marriage
- 26. Marriage of convenience
- 27. Grounds for divorce

**The Marriage Law of 2003 is issued by publication in the Official Gazette  
of the Republic of Cyprus under Section 52 of the Constitution**

Number 104(I) of 2003  
THE MARRIAGE LAW

The House of Representatives decides as follows:

PART I – PRELIMINARY

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. This Law may be cited as the Marriage Law of 2003  | Short Title  |
| 2. In this Law unless the context otherwise requires –  | Interpretation   |
| “Republic” means the Republic of Cyprus.  | 111 of 1985<br>1 of 1986<br>8 of 1986  |
| “Municipality, Mayor and Municipal Council” bear the meaning conferred to these terms by the Municipalities’ Law. | 25 of 1986<br>39 of 1986<br>50 of 1986<br>114 of 1986<br>121 of 1986<br>149 of 1986<br>14 of 1987<br>63 of 1987<br>39 of 1988<br>204 of 1988<br>119 of 1990<br>143 of 1991<br>190 of 1991<br>223 of 1991<br>40(I) of 1992<br>54(I) of 1992<br>87(I) of 1992<br>23(I) of 1994<br>37(I) of 1995<br>8(I) of 1996<br>65(I) of 1996<br>85(I) of 1996<br>20(I) of 1997 |
| “Court” means the Family Court established pursuant to:<br>(a) the Family Courts Law,                             | 23 of 1990<br>247 of 1990<br>231 of 1991<br>88(I) of 1994<br>33(I) of 1996<br>61(I) of 1997<br>26(I) of 1998<br>92(I) of 1998<br>46(I) of 1999<br>96(I) of 1999<br>58(I) of 2000   |
| (b) the Family Court (Religious Groups) Laws, and   | 87(I) of 1994<br>46(I) of 1995<br>52(I) of 1995<br>38(I) of 1996<br>29(I) of 1997<br>22(I) of 1998   |

(c) section 21(l) of the Courts of Justice Law.

14 of 1960  
50 of 1962  
11 of 1963  
8 of 1969  
40 of 1970  
58 of 1972  
1 of 1980  
35) of 1982  
29 of 1983  
91 of 1983  
16 of 1984  
51 of 1984  
83 of 1984  
93 of 1984  
18 of 1985  
71 of 1985  
89 of 1985  
96 of 1986  
317(l) of 1987

49 of 1988  
64 of 1990  
136 of 1991  
149 of 1991  
237 of 1991  
42(l) of 1992  
43(l) of 1992  
102(l) of 1992  
26(l) of 1993  
82(l) of 1995  
102(l) of 1996  
26(l) of 1993  
82(l) of 1995  
102(l) of 1996  
4(l) of 1997  
53(l) of 1997  
27(l) of 1998  
53(l) of 1998  
110(l) of 1998  
34(l) of 1999  
146(l) of 1999  
41(l) of 2000  
32(l) of 2001  
40(l) of 2002

“Notice” means the notice given under section 4.

“Marriage officer” means the person appointed under section 3 to be a marriage officer for the purposes of this Law.

“Marriage Registrar or Registrar” means the person appointed pursuant to section 28.

“Register” means the register kept pursuant to section 28(2) and (3).

“Family Court” means the Family Court established under the Family Courts Law of 1990 to 2000.

23(l) of 1990  
247(l) of 1990  
231(l) of 1991  
88(l) of 1996

“Minister” means the Minister of Interior

61(l) of 1997  
26(l) of 1997  
92(l) of 1998  
46(l) of 1999  
96(l) of 1999  
58(l) of 2000

#### PART II – MARRIAGE

3. (1) Marriage means the agreement for a union into matrimony contracted between a woman and a man and celebrated by a Marriage Officer, pursuant to the provisions of this Law or by a registered minister of religion according to the Canons of the Greek Orthodox Church or the doctrines of the denominations recognized by the Constitution.
- (2) The Mayor, the Vice Mayor or any member of the Municipal Council duly authorized by the Mayor in writing for this purpose, as well as any person appointed by the Minister of Interior for the purposes of this Law, shall be a competent marriage officer under this Law.

Contracting a marriage

#### PART III – NOTICE OF INTENDED MARRIAGE

4. Persons desiring to contract a marriage shall appear before the Marriage Officer of their choice, and they shall give the relevant notice signed by them pursuant to Form A of the First Schedule of this Law.
5. The Marriage Officer shall issue to the persons intending to contract a marriage a certificate of service and he shall file a copy in a book to be kept by him for that purpose.
6. (1) The Marriage Officer shall issue to the persons intending to contract a marriage, and subject to the provisions of section 8 a certificate of service, stating in the certificate the date and the place for the celebration of the marriage. The certificate shall be issued in accordance to Form B, as it is set out in the First Schedule.

Notice of intended marriage

First Schedule Form A

Filing of the notice

Issue of Certificate of Notice

First Schedule Form B

(2)The date and the place of the marriage shall be fixed after having taken into consideration the preferences of the persons intending to contract a marriage, and it must be not earlier than fifteen days, and in no case it must be later than three months from the date of the issue of the service of the notice of service of the intended marriage, as referred to in section 4.

7. The Marriage Officer may, if he deems fit to fix, after an increased fee is paid, a later date for the marriage, which may be earlier than the fifteen days from the date of serving the notice for the intended marriage, if the persons intending to contract a marriage so desire.

Earlier date for contracting the marriage

8. (1) Before the Marriage Officer issues the date and the place for the celebration of the marriage in the certificate issued under clause (1) of section 6, requests from the persons intending to contract a marriage to appear before him personally or before any person authorized by the Marriage Officer and make an official declaration or affirmation in writing:

Declaration of parties that no impediment

- (a) that they know of no impediment or lawful hindrance to the marriage, and
- (b) that any necessary consent required for the marriage has been obtained, or that no such consent is required.

- (2) The Officer before whom the declarations referred to in clause (1) may, if deemed fit, to request, additional certificates or affirmations confirming the context of the declarations and the personal particulars of the persons intending to contract a marriage.

The Marriage Officer shall not issue a certificate of notice if the conditions for contracting a marriage prescribed in this Law are not complied with.

#### PART IV – MARRIAGE CEREMONY

- 9.- (1) The marriage shall be solemnized upon the simultaneous declaration of the persons intending to marry that they consent thereto, and the reading on behalf of the Marriage Officer to them of the text set out in the Second Schedule. The declaration shall be made publicly and formally, in accordance to the Second Schedule, before at least two witnesses, to the Marriage Officer who is obliged to draw the relevant deed forthwith.

Marriage Ceremony

Second Schedule

- (2) The marriage ceremony under clause (1) shall not impede the contracting of the same marriage in accordance to the religion and the doctrines of the parties, and contracting a marriage in accordance to the religion and doctrines of the parties shall not impede the contracting of a marriage pursuant to clause (1):

Provided that, in both cases as aforesaid, the marriages shall be deemed as one marriage.

As of the date of this Law coming into effect, each party contracting a religious marriage within the context of clause (1) of section 17, shall send to the Registrar a certified copy of the said marriage within forty five days from the date the marriage took place, and each registered church minister celebrating such marriage, shall inform the Registrar in writing within forty five days from such ceremony.

- 10.** (1) The Marriage Officer may decline to celebrate the marriage if he/she deems that, to the best of his/her knowledge the conditions required for celebrating a valid marriage are not complied with or if there is any impediment, which would render the marriage defective.
- (2) In case the Marriage Officer declines to celebrate the marriage, as referred to in clause (1) above, the persons affected by the decision of the Marriage Officer, may file an application to the Family Court, against the decision.
- 11.** The persons intending to contract a marriage are free to select the place for the celebration. For this purpose, they submit a joint application to the Marriage Registrar of the place of their wish.
- (1) For the purposes of this section, "place of marriage ceremony" means:

Refusal to  
celebrate the  
marriage

place of  
Ceremony

- (a) the municipality where the marriage shall take place and the marriage shall take place in the offices of the said municipality,
- (b) the place of the marriage ceremony specified by any other marriage officer, unless otherwise specified.

(2) For the purpose of celebrating a marriage there shall be a fee charged as specified in Part I of the Third Schedule:

Provided that the fees for celebrating a marriage by a registered minister of religion, under section 40, shall in no case exceed the fees specified in the Third Schedule.

Third Schedule  
Part I

Third Schedule

**12.** (1) Immediately upon the celebration of a marriage the Marriage Officer issues in accordance to Form C of the First Schedule a certificate in three copies signed by himself, and the parties to the marriage, and at least two of the witnesses. One of the copies shall be given to the parties to the marriage, the second is transmitted within seven days to the Registrar and the third shall be filed in the register kept by the Marriage Registrar in accordance to Form A of the Forth Schedule.

Marriage  
Certificate  
First Schedule,  
Form C

Forth Schedule  
Form A

(2) When the parties or one of them is a citizen of a foreign country, which has an embassy or Consulate in the Republic, the Marriage Officer sends a copy of the marriage certificate signed by him to the embassy or the Consulate of such country.

(3) The marriage certificate issue shall be as near as may be in the form C of the First Schedule.

First Schedule  
Form C.

(4) The marriage certificate may be issued in the English language, if so requested by the persons concerned, in accordance to the Form D of the First Schedule

First Schedule  
Form D

#### PART V – CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS IN CONTRACTING A MARRIAGE – DEFECTIVE MARRIAGES

**13.** (1) A marriage is considered to be defective and is subject to annulment or a declaration of invalidity or the non-existent status of the marriage pursuant to the provisions of this Law if it is voidable, void, or nonexistent as provided in paragraph (2) of this section.

Categories of  
Defective  
marriages



(2) A marriage is voidable when contracted in contravention of the provisions of section 14, void is a marriage contracted in contravention of the provisions of section 17, and non-existent is a marriage contracted in violation of section 19.

(3) A voidable marriage may be remedied as provided in section 16.

**14.** (1) The free consent of the persons intending to contract a marriage is required before contracting a marriage.

Voidable  
marriages

(2) There is no free consent of the persons intending to contract a marriage as provided in clause (1) of this section, if any one of them -

(a) Is a person incompetent of contracting a marriage within the context of clause (3) of this section, or

(b) He/she under misconception about the identity of the other person, or

(c) He/she has been forced to contract a marriage under threat, as specified in clause (4) of this section.

(3) For the purposes of paragraph (a) of clause (2) of this section a person incapable to contract a marriage is a person who -

(a) Subject to the provisions of section 16, is under eighteen years of age, or

(b) Is incompetent at the time of the marriage ceremony to comprehend and appreciate his/her act in order to consent to the marriage, because of mental disorder or incompetence or due to addiction to addictive substances.

(4) For the purposes of paragraph (c) of clause (2) a threat is deemed to be -

(a) Any action, act or omission which may bring about fear to an average reasonable human being, that he/she may be exposed to a direct and significant risk of his/her life, honour, freedom, bodily integrity, or property or that of the members of his/her family, and because of such fear he/she consents to the marriage.

(b) Any legal, illegal immoral action or act or declaration which brings about fear to an average reasonable person and the consent for marriage is obtained by or both persons because of this reason.

- 15.** (1) When one or both persons are under eighteen years of age, a marriage shall be permitted, if - Age of Marriage
- (a) They are both over sixteen years of age,
  - (b) the persons acting as their guardians consent in writing,
  - (c) there are serious grounds justifying the marriage
- (2) When -
- (a) The guardians unjustifiably so do not consent, as provided in paragraph (b) of clause (1) above, or
  - (b) there is no guardian to consent, the District Court where the person intending to contract a marriage resides, may permit the marriage.

- 16.** A marriage shall cease to be voidable – Lifting of voidability
- (a) If, despite the fact that it was solemnized without the consent of the persons when contracted, there follows a free and full consent of the spouses ,
  - (b) If, despite the fact that it was contracted by a person incompetent of contracting a marriage, the said person recognizes the marriage, if and so long he/she becomes a person competent of contracting a marriage,
  - (c) If, despite the fact that it has been contracted without the consent of the guardians, their consent in writing is later obtained,
  - (d) If, despite the fact that it was contracted as a result of misconception with respect to the identity of the other spouse, the person under misconception recognizes the marriage after establishing the misconception,

If, despite the fact that it was solemnized as a result of coercion of any person to contract a marriage, the coerced person recognizes the marriage after the threat is lifted.

- 17.** (1) For the purposes of this section and section 18 -
- (a) “Religious marriage” means the marriage which was celebrated or is being celebrated in accordance to the canons of the Greek Orthodox Church or the doctrines of the denominations recognized in the Constitution, and includes a religious marriage solemnized by a registered minister of religion before the date of this Law coming into effect, pursuant to the repealed Marriage Law Cap.279, as well as a religious marriage celebrated by a duly registered minister of religion as referred to in clauses (2) and (3) of section 40 of this Law.
  - (b) “civil marriage” includes a civil marriage celebrated before the date of this Law coming into effect, pursuant to the repealed Marriage Law, Cap. 279, and the Civil Marriage Laws of 1990 to 1995.
- (2) A marriage shall be void if it is performed -
- (a) Before any existing marriage between any of the persons is irrevocably resolved, including a religious or civil marriage,
  - (b) between direct or indirect line blood relatives up to fifth degree,
  - (c) between relatives by direct or indirect line affinity up to third degree,
  - (d) between an adopted and an adopting person or their descendants,
  - (e) between a child born outside a marriage and the father who has recognized thereof or his blood relatives.

Invalid  
Marriages

Cap. 279

- 18.** (1) For the purposes of paragraph (a) of clause (2) of section 17 -

Dissolution or  
annulment of  
existing  
marriage

- (a) The dissolution or annulment of a marriage including a religious and civil marriage becomes irrevocable after the expiry of the deadline for filing an action,
- (b) when filing an action, the dissolution or annulment of a marriage, including a religious and civil marriage, is suspended until the issue of a decision on the action,
- (c) the right to file an action is irrevocably written off if, any of the parties contracts a new marriage before the expiry of the deadline for filing an action,
- (d) when a marriage is contracted before the end of the deadline for filing an appeal, the marriage shall not be null if no action was filed within the said deadline,
- (e) in case there coexist both a civil and a religious marriage or there are more than one marriages, the dissolution or annulment by the Court of one of the coexisting marriages shall result, for the purposes of this Law, to the dissolution of and annulment of the other marriage.

(2) The spouses may declare before the Court that they consider their marriage valid, before it is declared void pursuant to the provisions of this Law.

**19.-** (1) A Marriage shall be deemed as nonexistent -

- (a) if performed without the declaration provided in section 9 (1),
- (b) if not performed by a Marriage Officer or a registered minister of religion,
- (c) if it is a marriage of convenience,
- (d) if it was performed while there was a prohibiting order issued by any court,
- (e)

(2) For the purposes of this section, a “convenience marriage” means a marriage celebrated between a citizen of the Republic of Cyprus or an alien who has his domicile in the Republic of Cyprus with an alien, with the exclusive purpose that the alien enters and obtains permanent residence in the Republic of Cyprus.

Marriage  
nonexistent

## PART VI – ANNULMENT OF MARRIAGE

- 20.** The provisions of this Part shall apply for civil marriages celebrated before this Law coming into effect, pursuant to the Civil Marriages Law of 1990 to 1995 repealed thereby. Application of this Part
- 21.** (1) A voidable marriage under the provisions of this Law, may, if its voidability has not been lifted under the provisions of this Law, be annulled by decision of the Family Court, issued in an action filed for the annulment of the marriage by the persons referred to in clause (1) of section 22. Action for annulment
- (2) A void or non-existent marriage under the provisions of this Law, may be declared void or recognized as non-existent accordingly, only by decision of the Family Court, issued in an action filed for the declaration of the voidability or recognition of the non-existent status of the marriage, from the persons referred to in clause (2) of section 22.
- 22.** (1) An action for the annulment of the marriage pursuant to clause (1) of section 21 may be filed only by the following persons: Right to action
- (a) Any one of the spouses in the case of a voidable marriage as provided in clause (1) of section 14, or as provided in paragraph (a) of clause (2) of the said section , or due to the fact that the provisions of clause (1) of section 15 have not been complied with.
- (b) by a spouse who was under misconception in relation to the identity of the other spouse, or who was forced into contracting the marriage, but not by his/her heirs, in the case of a voidable marriage pursuant to the provisions of either paragraph (b) or paragraph (c) of clause (2) of section 14.
- (2) An action to declare the marriage void pursuant to clause (2) of section 21, may be filed only by one of the spouses or any other person having a direct lawful interest, in each case of an invalid marriage as provided in clause (2) of section 17, as well as by the Republic of Cyprus in the case of a marriage which is void as provided in paragraphs (a) and (e) of the said clause.

(3) An action to declare a marriage nonexistent pursuant to clause (2) of section 21, may only be filed by any one of the spouses or by any other person who has a lawful interest or by the Republic of Cyprus.

(4) The parents, the trustee or guardian of a minor for consent purposes, the administrator of the property of a person incompetent to consent, and any person who has the custody and care of a person and his/her property, the husband or wife in a previous non dissolved marriage in the case of bigamy, as well as the lawful children from such marriage and any person whose rights of succession is affected by the marriage, have a lawful interest for the purposes of this section.

**23.** (1) Subject to the provisions of clause (2), no action may be filed pursuant to section 21 after the lapse of three years from the date of the marriage ceremony.

Write off of  
annulment

(3) No action may be filed for the annulment of a marriage subject to clause (1) of section 21, by the spouse who was under misconception or was coerced to contract a marriage that is voidable by virtue of a misconception or coercion as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of clause (2) of section 14, after the lapse of six months from the date when the misconception was resolved or the threat was lifted accordingly.

(4)  
**24.** A marriage which is annulled or declared void by an irrevocable judicial judgment, ceases to have any effect from the date of the issue of the judgment, and a marriage recognized by such judgment as nonexistent, shall have no effect:

Effect of  
Annulment

Provided that, the provisions of this section do not affect any provisions of any other laws regulating the rights of persons in such marriages.

**25.** Children born to a marriage which is annulled or is declared void or acknowledged as nonexistent by a court decision, maintain the status of a child born to a marriage.

Status of  
children  
in void marriage

- 26.** (1) The acknowledgement of a marriage as nonexistent pursuant to clause (2) of section 21, has only future effect in relation to the spouse who when contracting the marriage was unaware of the defect of the marriage or in relation to both spouses in case they were both unaware of the defect:

Provided that, when only one of the spouses was unaware of the defectiveness of the marriage at the time of contracting the marriage, he has against the other spouse who knew of the defectiveness at that time, and in the case of a death of the other after the court decision, the rights for the time being in force in the case of a divorce.

(2) the spouse who was forced to contract a marriage under threat, illegally or contrary to the moral standards, has also the rights for the time being in force in the case of a divorce, in the case of death of the other spouse after the annulment of the marriage.

- 27.-** (1) A Marriage may be dissolved by a court decision, read -

(a) With respect to a marriage solemnized pursuant to the provisions of this Law, and a civil marriage within the context of the paragraph (b) of clause (1) of section 17, by the Family Court in a divorce action filed in the said Court,

(b) with respect to a civil marriage, which is dissolved under the jurisdiction of a family court established pursuant to the Family Court (Religious Groups) Laws of 1994 to 1998, from the said family court in a divorce action filed in the said court.

Grounds for  
divorce

87(I) of 1994  
45(I) of 1995  
52(I) of 1995  
38(I) of 1996  
29(I) of 1997  
22(I) of 1998

(2) The marriages referred to in clause (1) may be dissolved upon a divorce action filed by one of the spouses, when the relations between the spouses are so severely broken down on grounds regarding the defendant or both spouses, that it becomes unbearable for the applicant to continue the marital relation, or , with respect to persons belonging to the Greek Orthodox Church, for any other reason permitted pursuant to paragraph 2B of Section 111 of the Constitution -

Provided that with respect to a marriage as provided in paragraph (b) of clause (1), it may be dissolved for any other reason subject to the provisions of the Family Courts (Religious Groups) Laws of 1994 to 1998.

87(I) of 1994  
46(I) of 1995  
52(I) of 1995  
38(I) of 1996  
29(I) of 1997  
22(I) of 1998

(3) For the purposes of clause (2)-

- (a) Unless the respondent proves otherwise, it is presumed that the relations between the spouses have suffered a breakdown and that the continuation of the marital relation is unbearable for the applicant for reasons regarding the respondent as provided in the clause, in the case of bigamy or adultery or abandonment of the applicant, or threat of his/her life by the respondent,
- (b) The breakdown of the relations between the spouses as provided in this clause is conclusively evident if and so long the spouses are separated for at least four years, and the divorce may be issued even if the reason for the breakdown regards the applicant. Completing the time of separation is not impeded by short breaks which took place as an effort for the reestablishment of their relations and which do not exceed six months.

(4) Unless other grounds are provided for certain marriages in other laws for the dissolution thereof, a marriage may be dissolved by divorce for the following reasons -

- (a) change of the sex of respondent, or abandonment of the applicant or threat of his/her life by the respondent,



(b) when it is conclusively evident that the relations between the spouses have broken down and that the continuation of the marital relation is unbearable for the applicant for reasons regarding both parties as provided in clause (2), if and so long the parties have been separated for at least four years. The four year separation period shall not be affected by short breaks for the purpose of reinstatement of the relations between the parties and which do not exceed a total of six months.

(5) The death of one of the parties results in the dissolution of the marriage.

## PART VII – THE REGISTRAR

- 28.** (1) The General Registrar, appointed pursuant to the Civil Registry and Migration Law, shall be the Marriage Officer for the purposes of this Law. Marriage Registrar  
14(I) of 2002
- (2) The Marriage Registrar shall record all marriages in the register in accordance to Form A of the Fourth Schedule Fourth  
Schedule  
Form A
- (3) The Marriage Registrar, upon receiving an application by the persons concerned shall record the religious marriages in a special register in accordance to Form B of the Fourth Schedule. Fourth  
Schedule  
Form B
- (4) The Marriage Registrar or the Marriage Officer, shall, upon receiving the fee specified in the Third Schedule, issue to the persons who have contracted a marriage, or other duly authorized persons, certified marriage certificates in duplicate, for marriages which have been filed in the register of marriages kept by him. Third Schedule
- 29.** A certificate of marriage under this Law filed in the register of marriages or a copy thereof signed and certified as a true copy by the Registrar or the Marriage Officer, shall be admissible as evidence in any Court of Justice or before any person authorized by law. Certified copies  
to be evidence
- 30.** All divorces issued by the competent court in the Republic shall be filed in a register in accordance to Form C of the Fourth Schedule kept for this purpose at the office of the Registrar, upon a requisition of the person concerned. Filing of all  
divorces  
Forth Schedule  
Form C

**31.** (1) The Registrar upon receiving the fee specified under Part II of the Third Schedule, may, upon receiving a requisition by any person concerned, to issue a certificate in accordance to Form A of the Fourth Schedule, certifying that, according to the records kept at his register, the particular person has not performed a marriage and that a religious marriage has not been declared.

Issue of certificate by Registrar Third Schedule, Part II

Fourth Schedule Form D

(2) A person may be authorized to receive information of the records kept in the books of the Registrar or the Marriage Officers, if and so long the fee specified in the Third Schedule is paid.

Third Schedule

#### PART VII – OFFENCES

**32.** Any person referred to in clause (3) of section 9, failing to transmit the certificate or the prescribed information provided in the aforesaid clause, is committing an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two thousand pounds.

Failing to inform of religious marriage

**33.** Any Marriage Officer who, knowingly celebrates a marriage contrary to the provisions of this Law, is committing an offence and is liable to a imprisonment not exceeding two years or a fine not exceeding two thousand pounds or both.

Officiating a marriage in contravention of the Law

**34.** Any person who willfully makes or inserts any false statement in any declaration, certificate or other document required by this Law to be made or issued, shall be liable to imprisonment for any term not exceeding two years or a fine not exceeding two thousand pounds or both.

False statements

**35.** Any person who forges any Marriage Officer's certificate or knowingly utters any such forged certificate shall be liable to imprisonment for any term not exceeding five years or a fine not exceeding five thousand pounds or both.

Forging certificates

- 36.** Any person who knowingly celebrates or pretends to celebrate a marriage under this law, not being thereby legally competent to do so, is committing an offence and is liable to imprisonment for any term not exceeding five years or a fine not exceeding five thousand pounds or both.
- Officiating without being qualified.

## PART IX – MISCELLANEOUS

- 37.** Fees and rights paid under this Law are specified in Regulations. Until the issue of the relevant Regulations, the fees specified in Part I and Part II of the Third Schedule shall apply.
- Fees and Rights  
Third Schedule  
Part I  
Part II.

- 38.** The Marriage Officer shall supply forms of notices of marriages free of charge to any person requesting thereof.
- Forms to be provided by  
Marriage Officer

- 39.** The Council of Ministers may issue Regulations for the best implementation of the Law. The Regulations issued under this section shall be submitted to the House of Representatives for approval.
- Regulations

- 40.** (1) Application of this Law shall not affect in any way any marriage performed under the provisions of the laws repealed by this Law.

(2) Any minister of religion, who at the time of this Law coming into effect, is registered, under the provisions of the Marriage Law Cap. 279, shall continue to have the right to solemnize marriages in accordance to the provisions of this Law:

Provided that in the case of a marriage celebrated by the aforesaid ministers of religion, the provisions of this Law with respect to the conditions for celebrating a valid marriage shall apply, as well as the celebration of the marriage.

(3) (a) the Minister of Interior may register, upon their application, new certified or recognized ministers of religion of any religion, denomination or body, upon a verification of the recognized head of the denomination to which they belong. The names of the registered ministers of religion shall be recorded in a special register and published in the Official Gazette of the Republic during the month of January of each year.

(b) The Minister of Interior may at any time delete the name of a registered minister of religion from the register, in liaison with the head of the denomination to which the minister of religion belongs.

(4) The provisions of clauses (2) and (3) shall not apply for a marriage celebrated by a minister of a religious group, within the context of paragraph 3 of Section 2 of the Constitution, or the Greek Orthodox Church, if both persons intending to contract a marriage belong to that Church.

**41.** Upon this Law coming into effect  
- the Marriage Law, Cap.279

Repeals

Cap.279

4 of 1962

61 of 1966

71 of 1969

2 of 1980

21 of 1986

18 of 1987

150 of 1991

84(I)of 1994

84(I)of 1997

11(I)of1999

21 of 1990

28(I)of 1994

93(I)of 1994

57(I)of 1995

58(I)of 1995

- the Civil Marriage Law of 1990 to 1995

are repealed.

FIRST SCHEDULE

FORM A

\_\_\_\_\_

(Section 4)

NOTICE OF A MARRIAGE TO BE GIVEN BY PERSONS INTENDING TO CONTRACT A MARRIAGE

To the Marriage Officer of the Municipality of.....

We the undersigned

(a) ..... and

(b) .....

Hereby give you notice that we intend to contract a marriage between us.

Our personal particulars are laid out below and to the best of our knowledge and belief are correct. We declare that there is no relation between us which could render our marriage non existent and void due to blood relation or other close relation.

	<b>Particulars of man (a)</b>	<b>Particulars of woman (b)</b>
Name and Surname:	.....	.....
Date of birth:	.....	.....
Place of birth:	.....	.....
Religion:	.....	.....
Marital status:	.....	.....
Profession:	.....	.....
Nationality:	.....	.....
Present address:	.....	.....
	.....	.....

Permanent address: .....  
.....  
Identity Card No or  
Passport No: .....  
(for aliens) .....  
.....  
Country of issue: .....  
Name and Surname  
of father: .....  
.....  
Name and Surname  
of mother: .....  
.....  
\*Date of arrival in  
Cyprus .....  
Nationality: .....  
Present address: .....

Date on which the notice was given:  
.....(day)/.....(month)/.....(year).

Signature:  
(a).....(b).....

\*To be completed only by persons permanently residing abroad.

Note: Bigamy, that is to say, the celebration of a marriage before the legal dissolution of the existing one, constitutes an offence and those guilty of bigamy are liable to the punishment provided for such offence.

**FIRST SCHEDULE**

**FORM B**

---

**(Section 6(1))**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE OF NOTICE AND  
FIXING DATE AND PLACE OF CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE**

I, .....Marriage Officer in the Municipality of .....hereby certify that on the .....day of.....(month).....(year) a notice was served regarding the intention to contract a marriage between the persons named and described thereto, which was served signed by the persons whose names appear below, and which has been duly filed in the Marriage Notices Book of the above Municipality.

The marriage between these persons will take place in my Office or .....on.....(day) of .....(month).....(year). And at.....(time) in the presence of two witnesses.

Name and Surname	Identity Card No or Passport No.	Marital Status (Unmarried /Divorced/ Widower/Widow)	Permanent Residence
A.B.	.....	.....	.....
C.D.	.....	.....	.....

Date of issue of the notice:

.....(day)/.....(month)/.....(year)

Date of issue of certificate:

.....(day)/.....(month)/.....(year)

Witness my hand

This.....(day)/.....(month)/.....(year).

(Signature)

Marriage Officer

This certificate shall be void, unless the marriage is solemnized on the date specified above.



## CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

### FORM D- [Section 12(4)]

Marriage solemnized at .....in the District of .....Cyprus

No	Date of Marriage	Name and Surname of Parties	Date of birth	Marital Status Single or Divorced Widow/er	Citizenship and Religion	Permanent Residence	Parents Name and Surname

Married in the .....according to the provisions of .....

By me ..... Marriage Officer.....  
(Signature)

The marriage was solemnized Between us

1.....

2.....

1. in the presence of us (witnesses)

1. ....

2. ....

Name and Surname, Passport No.

Name and Surname, Passport No.

(Signature)

**SECOND SCHEDULE**

**Section 9**

---

**MARRIAGE CEREMONY**

**A. The Marriage Officer reads the following text:**

“Let it be known by you.....and

.....that by your simultaneous consent given publicly and formally in my presence and in the presence of the persons now here, accept each other as your lawful spouse and with the attestation of this fact by signing your names to that effect, you contract a lawful marriage for the purposes of the Civil Law.

And let it further be known, that this marriage cannot be dissolved during your lifetime except by a valid judgment of a court. If either of you (before the death of the other) contracts a marriage while this one remains undissolved you will thereby be guilty of bigamy, and be liable to the consequences provided by the law.

**B. Declaration by the one party to the other before the Marriage Officer and two witnesses.**

“I call upon all persons here present to witness that I .....

.....accept you.....as my lawful spouse, to love and to share with you as from this day, moments of joy and sorrow, wealth and poverty, happiness and unhappiness, throughout our life until death do separate us.

**C. Declaration by the Marriage Officer**

“As from this moment I pronounce you man and wife. You are joined together by your free consent in matrimony and you owe each other love, fidelity and respect throughout your life. This marriage constitutes the fulfillment of your life and links your destinies on good and rainy days, in happiness and unhappiness, in wealth and poverty , until death do separate you.

On the basis of equality you should face together all the problems and all the difficulties of life. Together you should shoulder the burdens of marriage each one according to you capabilities. You have both the right and obligation to take care for the upbringing and education of your children so that they may become useful and good citizens and free personalities.”

## THIRD SCHEDULE

### PART I

---

#### Section 11

#### RIGHTS/ FEES PAYABLE AT MUNICIPALITIES

1. Celebration of marriage after the lapse of fifteen days and no later than three months from the date of issue of the notice of intention to contract a marriage by the persons concerned. Euro: 128,00

.....

2. Celebration of marriage before the lapse of fifteen days from the date of issue of the notice of intention to contract a marriage by the persons concerned. Euro: 282,00

.....

3. For a true copy of the Marriage Certificate: Euro: 14,00

4. Information obtained from the Municipal Registers Euro: 17,00

**THIRD SCHEDULE  
PART II**

---

**Section 31 and 37**

**RIGHTS PAYABLE TO THE REPUBLIC**

- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| 1. For a true copy of the Marriage Certificate | Euro: 14,00 |
| 2. For certificate pursuant to section 31      | Euro: 34,00 |
| 3. For Information from the Registrar's Books  | Euro: 17,00 |

**FOURTH SCHEDULE  
FORM A**

**Sections 12 and 28**

Register for recording Marriages celebrated in the Republic.

Surname	Name	I.D. No	Place of Ceremony	Date of Marriage	Type of Marriage	
					Special License	Notice

**FOURTH SCHEDULE  
FORM B**

**Section 28**

Religious Marriages Register.

<b>Surname</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>I.D. No</b>	<b>Place of Ceremony</b>	<b>Date of Marriage</b>

**FOURTH SCHEDULE  
FORM C**

**Sections 30**

Register divorces issued in the Republic.

<b>Surname</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>I.D. No And passport</b>	<b>Date of marriage ceremony</b>	<b>Date of issue of divorce</b>	<b>Type of Marriage Civil or Religious</b>	

FOURTH SCHEDULE

FORM D

Section 31(l)

CERTIFICATE

According to the records kept pursuant to this Law it is hereby certified that  
...(name).....has not contracted a  
marriage in the Republic under this Law, nor has it been declared by him/her  
that he/she has contracted a religious marriage.

THE REGISTRAR

Date: .....