



**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
FAMILY COURT
500 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Room 4485
Washington, DC 20001**

**PROCEDURES FOR THE REGISTRATION
OF CLERGY WITHOUT ENDORSER**

The following documentation has been found by many judges of this court to be sufficient evidence of affiliation with a religious society to support the granting of an authorization to perform marriage ceremonies in the District of Columbia. **All documentation must be either certified or notarized before submitting with application.**

All of the below requirements must be submitted in every case.

1. A **certificate** from the headquarters or chief official of the religious body showing that the applicant is currently recognized as a fellow minister, who is authorized by the religious society to perform marriages.
2. The accompanying **copy** of the Charter, By-laws, or Founding Document, if any, of the religious society with a copy of the applicant's record of ordination in the society.
3. An **affidavit** of the applicant which details how long he/she has been in the ministry, when and where he/she conducts religious meets, the size of his/her congregation. Further, what portion of his/her time is spent in religious stewardship? In addition, what material or monetary compensation he/she receives for his/her ministry and in what other business, if any, is he/she engaged.
4. The accompanying **notarized affidavit** of a reputable citizen of the District of Columbia declaring that the applicant is known to the citizen as a religious minister and is furthermore a person of good moral character

If any of the above documentation cannot be produced, it would be helpful to the Court's determination to produce a written explanation of the omission.

If you have any questions regarding the above information, please call the Marriage Bureau (202) 879-4850