

## COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DEMOGRAPHIC REGISTRY

## REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER IN MARRIAGE DESTINATION WEDDINGS

ACT 127 OF AUGUST 11, 2010 Sec. 2 "For purposes of this section, Puerto Rico accepts a medical certification that complies with all tests required to enter in marriage in their place of residence, and will not insist upon mandatory laboratory tests necessary in our jurisdiction, for men and women non-residents of Puerto Rico who wish to get married on the Island..."

Prior to start all wedding preparations, you must obtain all documents required by the Vital Records offices in Puerto Rico, formalities necessary for our agency and the conclusion of the ceremony. The future spouses must both visit the Demographic Registrar's Office and comply with the following requisites:

- 1. A statement or certification (letter or prescription note with full address of the medical center or doctor office) from an authorized medical physician which indicates the compliance of all tests required to enter in marriage in *their place of residence*. Please specify if lab test is not necessary. The certification has a validity of ten (10) calendar days subsequent to the date of issuance, and following these, will not be able to get married until a new medical certification is issued.
- 2. A sworn statement or affidavit which stipulates the following:
  - ✓ Non-residents of Puerto Rico;
  - ✓ The purpose of the visit is solely to enter in marriage;
  - ✓ Duration of the visit; if a foreign citizen, establish that he/she will not stay in Puerto Rico for more time than what was specified in the permission to enter a United States Territory, granted by the corresponding federal agency.

If the sworn statement is written in the United States, the public notary's signature, before who the statement was made, must be authenticated by the state County Clerk (in some cases, this corresponds to the Secretary of State).

- 3. Valid photo identification, issued by the government of the state or country of residence. The following are the most common forms of accepted identifications: Driver's License, Passport or State Identification. Expired or mutilated is not acceptable.
- 4. Puerto Rico Internal Revenue Stamp for the sum of \$150.00
- 5. Original birth certificates; the names will be documented per the way they appear on the certificates. If have legal change name provide evidence from courthouse, documents has to be sealed as a certified copy.
- 6. Divorce decrees from all previous marriages, or in the case of widowhood, the spouse's death certificate. Original documents.

"If you have a birth certificate, marriage certificate, divorce certification (or documents related with the divorced), name changes by court or any other document that you have to submit in order to obtain a marriage license in Puerto Rico that is not originally in Spanish, you must translate the documents in Spanish or English. You will have to provide the original document and the translated document"

7. Celebrants must be registered through and authorized by the Demographic Registry in order to officiate marriages in Puerto Rico.

The authorized Registrar shall provide the intending spouses with the form RD2014, to be completed in its totality and submit it to the local Demographic Registrar's Office, supplemented by both the Sworn and Medical statements. The Registrar will verify that all information documented is correct, before completing the Marriage Certificate and issuing the License to get married. Minors of 21 years of age must be accompanied by both parents with legal guardianship, duly identified, who will sign the marriage certificate in the presence of the celebrant. The celebrant is obligated to submit the marriage certificate and matrimonial license to any Demographic Registrar's Office, regardless of where the matrimonial rituals were celebrated during the subsequent ten (10) calendar days after the celebration.