



**EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON OF BROOKLYN  
THE TRIBUNAL**

**In re: THE MARRIAGE OF**

**and**

**Petitioner**

**Respondent**

**LIGAMEN PETITION**

With the enclosed information, I, the undersigned Petitioner, acting pursuant to *CCEO* cc. 1360, 1° and 1185 et seq., hereby request the Tribunal of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn to declare my marriage to the above-named Respondent null and void under the applicable provisions of ecclesiastical law.

I verily believe and therefore assert that the canonical grounds on which the marriage should be declared null are the existence of a **prior bond of matrimony**.

The Tribunal is competent to adjudicate this cause pursuant to *CCEO* c.1358.

In regard to the adjudication of my petition, I understand that:

- No assurance can be given of an affirmative decision (that is, one granting the annulment) nor as to a definite time for the completion of the canonical process;
- No arrangements can be made for a future Catholic marriage or convalidation until after I have received a final and favorable decision from the Tribunal
- If the circumstances causing the invalidity of the marriage so indicate, the Tribunal may require a counseling evaluation before a marriage in the Church is permitted.
- The Respondent (my former spouse) is entitled to participate in these proceedings and, thus, will be notified by the Tribunal (upon receipt of this petition) and given an opportunity to participate in the process. I am aware that his/her rights further include:

- knowing the basis for my petition,
- offering testimony and/or witnesses which can support of challenge it,
- the possibility of reviewing my testimony and that of my witnesses,
- challenging or appealing the decision of this Tribunal to that of a higher Church court.
- Normally, it is expected that this questionnaire will provide sufficient information that will eliminate the need for an in-person interview. However, after an initial evaluation, the Tribunal may request a personal interview with me and/or my witnesses.

### **AFFIDAVIT OF THE PETITIONER**

I solemnly affirm before God and my conscience that I present this testimony in good faith, and that the answers I have given are entirely true, to the best of my knowledge. Furthermore, I hereby consent to the possibility that the Tribunal may need to disclose my testimony to the following: the parties of the case (petitioner and respondent), clinical experts, and/or another church tribunal. This consent is also extended to other professionals who may be needed in order to arrange for a future Catholic marriage for either party.

**SIGNATURE OF PETITIONER** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(if female, include maiden name)*

**SWORN TO** and subscribed before the undersigned this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
 A.D. 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Priest/Deacon/Notary Public

[Seal]

N.B. This affidavit should be notarized and is to be signed in the presence of a Catholic Priest or deacon (at a local Catholic Church) or a Notary Public. For reasons of confidentiality, it is not appropriate for the priest/deacon/notary to review the contents of the Petition and/or questionnaire.