

## POLICY ON CONSENT TO REMARRIAGE OF DIVORCED PERSONS

Purpose: This policy outlines the process by which a presbyter canonically resident or licensed to officiate in the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas might seek consent from the bishop in accordance with Canon I.19.3.

To help the bishop with this work, presbyters and couples should use the “Remarriage Application, Long Form” on the diocesan website. However, the bishop has made the following provisions and procedures for the use of the “Remarriage Application, Short Form.”

If all the following criteria are met, the bishop delegates to the priest submitting the application the authority to consent to remarriage subject to the bishop's withholding consent within thirty (30) days after the submission of the application:

- (a) Neither person has had more than one (1) previous marriage dissolved in divorce.
- (b) At least one (1) year has elapsed since the single divorce decree was issued.
- (c) Both persons are active in a faith community and one of those is related to The Episcopal Church.
- (d) The priest submitting the application is convinced that the potential exists for a good marriage.
- (e) There is at least thirty (30) days between the date of submitting the application and the date of the proposed marriage.
- (f) The priest submitting the application is canonically resident in this Diocese and not under discipline.

In these cases the priest informs the bishop at least thirty (30) days before the proposed marriage date that the criteria set out above are met using the “Remarriage Application, Short Form” on the website.

The bishop has thirty (30) days from receipt of the application in which to respond. If the Bishop has not responded within that period, consent shall be considered to be given by delegation to the priest submitting the application. The bishop may act to withdraw consent at any time prior to the celebration and blessing of the marriage. It should be understood that such withdrawal will be exercised only in the most extreme circumstances.

None of the above provisions shall apply if the notification cannot reach the Bishop's office in compliance with the time frames herein set out nor shall it apply to any marriage which does not occur within ten (10) days of the proposed marriage date set out on the application.