

# Town of North Branford

## *Office of the Town Clerk*

### **FAQ's about APPLYING for a MARRIAGE LICENSE**

#### ***Where do I get my license?***

As of October 1, 2009 the Bride/Groom/Spouse must obtain their Marriage License in the town where the ceremony will take place.

The Marriage MUST be performed in the town indicated on the license.

#### ***Do we both need to be there?***

To obtain a Marriage License, both parties MUST appear in person.

#### ***Do we need blood tests?***

As of October 1, 2003, NO blood test is necessary.

#### ***What else do we need to bring?***

You will need a photo ID. In cases of divorce prior to this union, NO divorce papers are necessary.

#### ***When may the license be used?***

There is NO waiting period. The license may be used immediately after obtaining it. The license is valid for 65 days from the date of application.

#### ***What is the fee?***

The fee for obtaining a Marriage License in the State of Connecticut is \$30.00. Payment method is cash or check. NO credit/debit cards are accepted.

#### ***What happens to the certificate after the ceremony?***

The person who performs the marriage ceremony must complete the certificate AFTER performing the union, and return it to the REGISTRAR OF THE TOWN WHERE THE CEREMONY OCCURRED.

The town of occurrence maintains the original and sends certified copies to the State of Connecticut, along with the Town(s) of residence within Connecticut, listed on the certificate, for the parties involved. Once that occurs, you may purchase certified copies from either the town of occurrence OR the town(s) of residence listed on the certificate.

#### ***Can a friend / family member who has become ordained on the internet legally perform a marriage ceremony?***

NO. Connecticut State Statutes, 46b-22, states that clergy must "continue in the work of the ministry". This means that any ordained minister who does not regularly carry out ministerial work would NOT be authorized to perform marriage ceremonies in Connecticut.