



Assemblies Of The Lord Jesus Christ

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This process applies to Marriage and Divorce applications submitted in accordance with the requirements of Article VIII, Section 5. It has been approved by the Executive Board and the General Board of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The intent of this policy is to provide a clear and consistent process for treating each Article VIII, Section 5 (Marriage & Divorce) application in a fair, uniform, consistent, and timely manner.

- 1) The only acceptable “after conversion” Marriage & Divorce condition per Article VIII, Section 5 is, “except in those cases where fornication or adultery is proven as grounds for divorce by the applicant and his/her spouse.” This condition does NOT include where a couple divorces for any other reason. The criteria is clear, the divorce must have been caused by fornication or adultery while they were married and living together as man and wife. If there is any question about an applicant qualifying using this criterion, contact the General Superintendent, your Assistant General Superintendent-Regional Representative, or the General Secretary/Treasurer in advance. The best time for addressing the qualification issue is when the applicant shows interest in the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ and before he/she makes application.
- 2) It is important to remember, the applicant is seeking membership in the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ. As such, they and their spouses and their witnesses are required to follow our established and approved process, which is designed to accommodate their situation only in accordance with our By-Laws; and at the same time, protect the integrity of the organization and the expectations of each existing member- those expectations being- that we will not compromise our corporate values and beliefs.
- 3) The ALJC Constitution stipulates that the applicant and his/her witnesses must document their testimony on an “affidavit.”
- 4) The Executive Board approved policy requires the use of the approved affidavit form for documenting the testimony of:
 - a. The applicant
 - b. His/her spouse, when applicable
 - c. Each witness.The affidavit forms are available at www.aljc.org/forms, and are in PDF form.
 - a. [Personal/Spouse Affidavit Form](#) (Click on the form name to download the form)
 - b. [Witness Affidavit Form](#) (Click on the form name to download the form)
- 5) The decision regarding Article VIII, Section 5 - Marriage & Divorce (M&D) after conversion applications:
 - a. Is the responsibility of the District Board.

- b. This M&D decision must be documented by the District Secretary on a "[District Board Affidavit Review/Disposition Form](#)." This approval and form ONLY addresses the Marriage & Divorce issue.
 - c. The Executive Board may or may not "endorse" the District Board's M&D decision, reserving the right to "thoroughly and judiciously investigate the application" as it deems necessary.
- 6) The approval of the application for membership – i.e., determining the individual's eligibility for membership and license type- is made by the District Board separately and is documented as it has always been on the "District Board Signature Page."
- 7) The Personal and when applicable Spouse Personal Affidavit forms must be signed and dated in the presence of a Notary, who must also sign, date and stamp the affidavit. To ensure the integrity of the process, as is normal with any legal document, the Notary cannot be related to the individual signing the affidavit.
- 8) All Witness Affidavit forms must be signed and dated in the presence of a Notary, who must also sign, date and stamp the affidavit. To ensure the integrity of the process, as is normal with any legal document, the Notary cannot be related to the individual signing the affidavit.
- 9) If a District Board does not have the required affidavits in hand at the time it meets with the applicant in order to complete its review and disposition of the application, it must meet again once the affidavits have been obtained.
- 10) No Article VIII, Section 5 Marriage & Divorce application will be accepted at Headquarters that does not include the minimum required Personal/Spouse Affidavit, Witness Affidavits and the District Board Affidavit – using the approved applicable affidavit forms. All incomplete applications will be immediately returned to the Districts for proper completion.
- Any questions regarding the steps in this process need to be asked in advance- before a District Board's review and disposition- since those questions may affect the applicant's eligibility under Article VIII, Section 5, or may affect the affidavits.
- 11) Submission of the application to Headquarters can only be made after the application has been fully and properly completed and approved by the District Board. When it is mailed to Headquarters it must include all completed and notarized affidavits, divorce papers, any other supplemental letters, explanation of answers where necessary, and the applicant's Beneficiary Form (properly completed, signed and dated).

Please address any questions with regard to this process to an Executive Board member. This is a "living" policy and is subject to further improvement as deemed necessary by the Executive Board or the General Board.