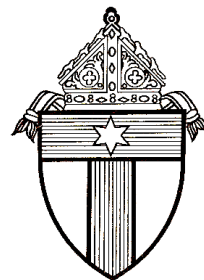


# BROTHER – SISTER AGREEMENT

Diocese of Lincoln  
3400 Sheridan Blvd.  
Lincoln, NE 68506



Most Reverend Bishop:

We the undersigned, realizing that our marriage is invalid in the sight of God and therefore that we have no marriage rights whatever, finding it extremely difficult to separate, humbly request permission to live together as brother and sister so that I (we) can be readmitted to the reception of the Sacraments of the Church.

## CIVIL HUSBAND

_____	_____
Name	Religion
_____	_____
Address	Date and Place of Baptism
_____	_____
City-State-Zip	Telephone

### Regarding Present Marriage:

1. Name of present civil spouse \_\_\_\_\_
2. Date and Place of this marriage \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who officiated at the ceremony? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Was she a Catholic at the time of your marriage to her? \_\_\_\_\_
5. At the time of this marriage, did you consider that you were entering a valid marriage? \_\_\_\_\_

### Previous Marriage

*(If necessary, use additional paper for multiple previous marriages)*

6. Name of previous spouse \_\_\_\_\_
7. Who officiated at the ceremony? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_
9. Was she baptized? \_\_\_\_\_ When and where? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Has the Catholic Church ever declared this marriage invalid? \_\_\_\_\_ Is she still living? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Did you have any children with this previous spouse? \_\_\_\_\_
12. (If yes) Are you fulfilling your civil and religious obligations to them? \_\_\_\_\_
13. (If yes) How? (If no) Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

14. Did that marriage end in divorce? \_\_\_\_\_
15. When and where? \_\_\_\_\_
16. What was the cause of the separation and divorce? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
17. Has she remarried? \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Living Arrangement**

18. Do you understand what is meant by living together as brother and sister? \_\_\_\_\_
19. What are your reasons for requesting this permission? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
20. How long have you and your present wife been living together as brother and sister? \_\_\_\_\_
21. Do you think that both of you can keep your promise to live as brother and sister? \_\_\_\_\_
22. If the requested permission is granted, do you promise to live as brother and sister? \_\_\_\_\_
23. To what extent is the invalidity of your present marriage known:
- a) Among your relatives? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) Among your friends? \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) In your parish? \_\_\_\_\_
  - d) In the city where you live? \_\_\_\_\_
24. Do you realize that if the requested permission is granted it is not to be considered a validation of your present union? \_\_\_\_\_
25. Do you promise to abide by the judgment of your pastor regarding whether you may receive the sacraments in your own parish, or whether, because of the danger of scandal or wonderment, you should receive the sacraments in a place where you are not known? \_\_\_\_\_
26. Do you have anything further to add regarding this whole matter? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature – Civil Husband

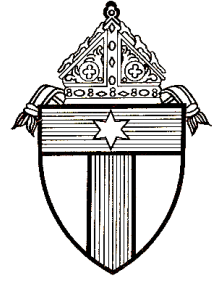
\_\_\_\_\_  
Priest Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Place

# BROTHER – SISTER AGREEMENT

Diocese of Lincoln  
3400 Sheridan Blvd.  
Lincoln, NE 68506



Most Reverend Bishop:

We the undersigned, realizing that our marriage is invalid in the sight of God and therefore that we have no marriage rights whatever, finding it extremely difficult to separate, humbly request permission to live together as brother and sister so that I (we) can be readmitted to the reception of the Sacraments of the Church.

## CIVIL WIFE

_____	_____
Name	Religion
_____	_____
Address	Date and Place of Baptism
_____	_____
City-State-Zip	Telephone

### Regarding Present Marriage:

1. Name of present civil spouse \_\_\_\_\_
2. Date and Place of this marriage \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who officiated at the ceremony? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Was he a Catholic at the time of your marriage to him? \_\_\_\_\_
5. At the time of this marriage, did you consider that you were entering a valid marriage? \_\_\_\_\_

### Previous Marriage

*(If necessary, use additional paper for multiple previous marriages)*

6. Name of previous spouse \_\_\_\_\_
7. Who officiated at the ceremony? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_
9. Was he baptized? \_\_\_\_\_ When and where? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Has the Catholic Church ever declared this marriage invalid? \_\_\_\_\_ Is he still living? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Did you have any children with this previous spouse? \_\_\_\_\_
12. (If yes) Are you fulfilling your civil and religious obligations to them? \_\_\_\_\_
13. (If yes) How? (If no) Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

14. Did that marriage end in divorce? \_\_\_\_\_
15. When and where? \_\_\_\_\_
16. What was the cause of the separation and divorce? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
17. Has he remarried? \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Living Arrangement**

18. Do you understand what is meant by living together as brother and sister? \_\_\_\_\_
19. What are your reasons for requesting this permission? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
20. How long have you and your present husband been living together as brother and sister? \_\_\_\_\_
21. Do you think that both of you can keep your promise to live as brother and sister? \_\_\_\_\_
22. If the requested permission is granted, do you promise to live as brother and sister? \_\_\_\_\_
23. To what extent is the invalidity of your present marriage known:
- a) Among your relatives? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) Among your friends? \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) In your parish? \_\_\_\_\_
  - d) In the city where you live? \_\_\_\_\_
24. Do you realize that if the requested permission is granted it is not to be considered a validation of your present union? \_\_\_\_\_
25. Do you promise to abide by the judgment of your pastor regarding whether you may receive the sacraments in your own parish, or whether, because of the danger of scandal or wonderment, you should receive the sacraments in a place where you are not known? \_\_\_\_\_
26. Do you have anything further to add regarding this whole matter? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature – Civil Wife

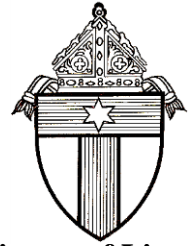
\_\_\_\_\_  
Priest Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Place

**BROTHER – SISTER AGREEMENT  
PROMISES**

*(To be submitted in duplicate)*



**Diocese of Lincoln  
3400 Sheridan Blvd.  
Lincoln, NE 68506**

Realizing the sacredness of an oath and my obligation before God to tell the truth, I solemnly swear:

Concerning: \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

1. That under no circumstances will I ever again request or consent to marital relations, or indulge in other forbidden intimacies, with my present civil law spouse unless our attempted marriage is validated in the Church;
2. That my civil law spouse and I will occupy different beds;
3. That I will take careful precautions to prevent scandal from arising as a result of our permission to live together as brother and sister;
4. That I will explain my marital status to my confessor, and honestly report on the observance of my promise to live as brother and sister with my present civil law spouse.

So help me God and these Holy Gospels which I touch with my hand.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature – Civil Husband

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature – Civil Wife

\_\_\_\_\_  
Priest Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Place

\*\*\*\*\*

On the basis of the testimony and promises of the above named parties, and upon the recommendation of the Rev. \_\_\_\_\_, permission is herewith given for said parties to live together as brother and sister.

*Given at the  
Lincoln Diocesan Chancery*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Delegate of the Bishop

## **RECOMMENDATION OF THE PASTOR**

In submitting this petition to the Most Reverend Bishop, the pastor shall give the following information in a cover letter or in the space provided below:

1. His evaluation of the testimony given by each party;
2. The judgment which he renders in connection with the matter contained in question #25;
3. His opinion regarding the fulfillment of the promises made by each party;
4. His recommendation as to whether or not the requested permission should be granted.