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For office use only

LIBELLUS
**PETITION FOR A DECLARATION OF NULLITY
THROUGH THE ORDINARY PROCESS**

I, **YOUR PRESENT NAME** hereby exercise my right to challenge my marriage before the Toledo Tribunal in accord with canon 1674 §1, 1°, and I request that the Tribunal investigate the validity of my consent to marry **RESPONDENT’S (i.e. – former spouse’s) FULL NAME** , which took place on **FULL DATE** at **PLACE OF MARRIAGE (CHURCH NAME OR OTHERWISE)** in **NAME** County, **CITY AND STATE** .

The following is a brief summary of the reasons that I am accusing my marriage of nullity from the moment of consent.

With the help of your Advocate, and in a few paragraphs, type here to succinctly describe the reasons you think your marriage was invalid due to a defect in or incapacity to consent. Always keep in mind that this document will be sent in the mail to the Respondent (your former spouse) if your petition is accepted by the Tribunal. Please take the following points into consideration:

Family backgrounds, any problems growing up, and how they impacted the subsequent choices to date and marry;

Courtship (and, if applicable, cohabitation);

Decision to marry, motivations, if there was pressure;

Engagement period and any difficulties;

Married life and when problems began;

Why the marriage failed and how this points to invalidity from consent onward.

With these facts in mind, I request that the Toledo Tribunal examine the consent to the above-mentioned marriage on the basis of the following ground(s), which I have discussed with my Advocate:

Please type the alleged ground(s) here, including (1) the canon number and (2) which party/parties each ground is alleged against (Petitioner, Respondent, or both parties)

See EXPLANATION OF GROUNDS OF NULLITY document for more information.

Example:

Canon 1095, 2° – A Grave Lack of Discretion of Judgment Regarding the Essential Matrimonial Duties on the part of the Petitioner

I fully realize that a declaration that the consent exchanged between myself and my former spouse, the Respondent, was invalid depends on the proofs presented and that it is my responsibility to assure the Tribunal that adequate and truthful facts are offered for this examination. Here is a brief list of proofs that will be helpful in investigating my cause:

Witnesses

- **Full Name of Witness 1 – Relationship to parties and what he/she can testify before the Tribunal**
- **Full Name of Witness 2 – Relationship to parties and what he/she can testify before the Tribunal**
- **Full Name of Witness 3 – Relationship to parties and what he/she can testify before the Tribunal**
- **Full Name of Witness 4 – Relationship to parties and what he/she can testify before the Tribunal**

Documents and Other Information

- **CAN INCLUDE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING: EMAILS, SCREENSHOTS, LETTERS, PHOTOS, AND SO ON**

I understand that no assurance can be given of an affirmative decision, that is, one which recognizes that consent was invalid, nor can assurance be made of a definite timeline for the completion of this process. Furthermore, I understand that absolutely no arrangements can be made for a future Catholic marriage or convalidation unless and until I have received a final and favorable decision from the Toledo Tribunal and any and all appeals Tribunals to which this matter may be directed. I recognize that this process is an entirely ecclesiastical one with juridic effects at canon law but without any legal effects under United States civil law.

My current address is: **FULL MAILING ADDRESS**

The Respondent's current address is: **FULL MAILING ADDRESS**

I understand that the Respondent has the same rights as I do in this process, including a right to participate fully, and as such will receive a copy of this *libellus* (c. 1508 §2). If we desire to do so, the Respondent and I will both be permitted to review the acts, testimony, and definitive sentence of this cause at the appropriate times.

I swear before God that all that is contained in this *libellus* is submitted freely by myself, the Petitioner, and is true to the best of my knowledge and memory.

Signature of Petitioner

Date

Signature of Petitioner's Advocate

Date