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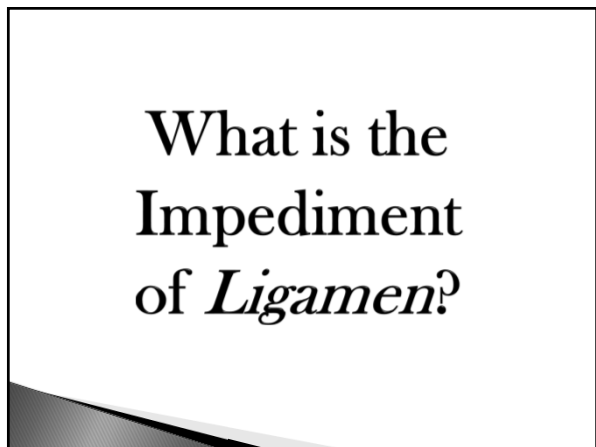
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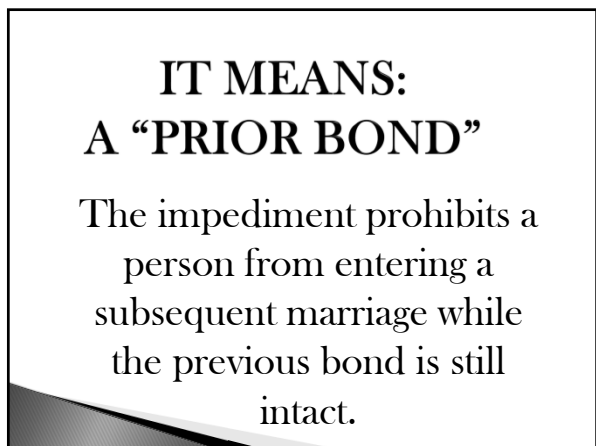
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▶ A *Ligamen* is usually done on a **Respondent's** previous marriage.

▶ It involves non-Catholics.

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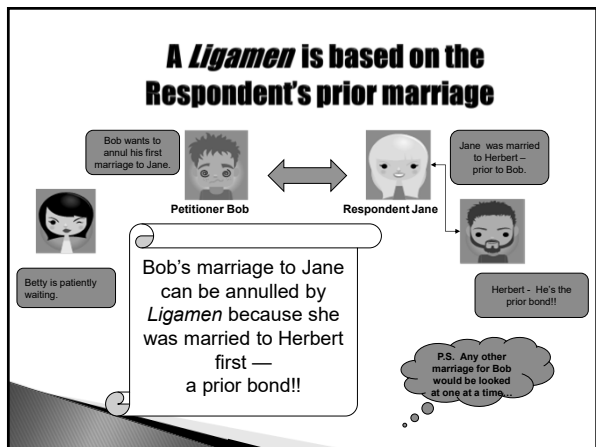
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### What Must Be Proven?

- ▶ The existence of a prior bond on the side of the Respondent at the time the Petitioner and Respondent entered marriage; and,
- ▶ The Respondent's ex-spouse (the Co-Respondent) is still living.
- ▶ The non-Catholic status of the Respondent must be known or reasonably presumed.

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If there are other prior marriages on the Petitioner's side, each marriage case must be looked at separately.



*The proof wasn't in the pork chop, either, but Robert held on to hope he'd find it in the pudding.*

Ideally this is Respondent's second marriage and the Petitioner's first marriage.

Petitioner ↔ Respondent

Ideally this is the Respondent and Co-Respondent's first marriage.

Co-Respondent

Difficulty arises when:  
Respondent is not participating / Absent / Whereabouts Unknown

1. First Marriage for both parties.
2. Neither party is Catholic, and there is certain proof.
3. Record of marriage must be available.

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## How is This Proven?

- ▶ It is a documentary process; and
- ▶ Invalidity is proven by **DOCUMENTS** alone.




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## *Ligamen* Application Form

Tab 10, p. 35

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**Diocese of Sacramento  
The Tribunal**  
2110 Broadway, Sacramento CA 95818  
(916) 733-0225  
www.tribunal.scd.org

*Office Use Only:*  
Rec'd: \_\_\_\_\_  
PN: \_\_\_\_\_

*Petition for a declaration of nullity due to*  
**LIGAMEN**

PETITIONER	RESPONDENT
At the time of this marriage, had you been baptized or received into the Catholic Church? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	At the time of this marriage, had he/she been baptized or received into the Catholic Church? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

If either the Petitioner and/or Respondent is a baptized Catholic and married outside the Catholic Church in another Christian faith, a non-denominational ceremony, or a civil ceremony, **STOP** and complete Lack of Form.

Will the Respondent cooperate in this process?  Yes  No  
Have you discussed this with him/her?  Yes  No *(If not, please explain why.)*

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*To be filled out with the assistance of the Parish Advocate. Please print clearly.*

PETITIONER	RESPONDENT
Current Full Name (First, Middle Last)	
Maiden Name (if applicable)	
Address	
Number & Street	
City, State and ZIP Code	
Home Telephone (inc. area code)	
Work Telephone (inc. area code)	
Mobile Telephone (inc. area code)	
E-Mail Address	
Date of Birth	
Place of Birth	
If Baptized, Date of Baptism	
If Baptized, Place of Baptism	
Current Denomination/Religion	

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<b>MARRIAGE UNDER INVESTIGATION</b>	
Denomination/Religion at Time of Marriage	Petitioner _____ Respondent _____
Date of Marriage (Month, Day, and Year)	
Place of Marriage (City, State and Zip)	
Who officiated? (e.g. Deacon, Priest, Pastor, Judge)	
Date of Final Decree of Divorce	County and State _____

Was this your first marriage?  Yes  No. If no, please list all prior and subsequent marriages (include name, date, place, and type of officiant (e.g., minister, priest, rabbi, judge)).

Date of Marriage	Name of Spouse	Place of Ceremony (Include City and State)	Officiant	Address of Spouse

You must include a certified original marriage license/certificate for each marriage. (NOTE: California's marriage license and certificate is one page, however, (and other states) marriage license and certificate are two separate items. You must have both the license and certificate. One indicates the number of previous marriages.)

**RESPONDENT'S PRIOR BOND**  
Was this the first marriage for the Respondent?  Yes  No. If no, list all prior and subsequent marriages.

Date of Marriage	Name of Spouse (in Co-Respondent)	Place of Ceremony (Include City and State)	Address of Spouse

Was this the first marriage for the Co-Respondent?  Yes  No. If no, STOP and complete Form C.  
Was the Co-Respondent ever a Catholic?  Yes  No. If yes, STOP and complete Form C.  
Was the Co-Respondent living at the time you married the Respondent?  Yes  No. If no, STOP and complete Form C.

What is the source of your information? \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of final decree of divorce \_\_\_\_\_ County and State \_\_\_\_\_

**PETITION AND AFFIDAVIT**  
I, the undersigned, do hereby petition that my marriage to the Respondent be declared invalid on the grounds that the time of our marriage, the Respondent was already bound by a prior bond (e.g. marriage). I further declare, under oath, that the above statements are true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of petitioner \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parish advocate \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

**TO BE COMPLETED BY PARISH ADVOCATE (PRIEST, DEACON, OR LAY MINISTER)**

Name	Parish/Coop
Address	
Phone	City, State, Zip

(Original Form 1004-1000-001) Page 2 of 3

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**Documents Required**

- "Ligamen" Form**
- Certified/Original **civil marriage license and certificate of marriage** between Petitioner and Respondent (must have stamp or seal)  
**NOTE:** California's marriage license and certificate is one page. Nevada's (and other states) marriage license and certificate are two separate items. We must have both the **license and certificate**. One indicates the number of previous marriages.
- Certified/Original **decree of dissolution (divorce) or civil nullity** between Petitioner and Respondent (must have stamp or seal)  
**NOTE:** Two documents are required: **"Notice of Entry of Judgment"** and **"Judgment."**
- Certified/Original **civil marriage license(s) and certificate(s)** of Respondent's previous marriage(s) to Co-Respondent(s) (must have stamp or seal)  
**NOTE:** California's marriage license and certificate is one page. Nevada's (and other states) marriage license and certificate are two separate items. We must have both the **license and certificate**. One indicates the number of previous marriages.
- \$175 fee** (check payable to Tribunal - Diocese of Sacramento)

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**ONCE THE PETITION IS RECEIVED**

- ▶ The Respondent must be informed of the Petitioner's petition.
- ▶ The Respondent is cited and asked to complete a brief questionnaire.
- ▶ If Respondent is uncooperative, absent, or whereabouts unknown, the Petitioner is responsible for submitting all required proofs of the Respondent's prior bond.
- ▶ The Defender of the Bond must evaluate the evidence.
- ▶ If the nullity of the marriage is established, a Decree of Nullity is granted.

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**If the information and documents cannot support a *Ligamen*, it will be a Formal case.**

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