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## *Tips for Completing the Marriage Certificate*

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*Print legibly. This is a legal document that will remain on record forever.*

*Have both witnesses sign and print their names.*

*Fill out each line on the certificate. Missing or illegible information will delay the issuance of the certified copy.*

*If questions, call the County listed on the Marriage License before sending in the marriage certificate.*

## **FREEBORN COUNTY RECORDER**

411 S. Broadway

Albert Lea, MN 56007

507-377-5130

[www.co.freeborn.mn.us](http://www.co.freeborn.mn.us)



## *Information for the Minnesota Marriage Officiant*

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## Registration

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*Individuals must be 21 years of age to officiate a wedding.*

***An individual must register with a county in the State of Minnesota before performing a marriage ceremony.***

*A Certificate of Filing will be issued at the local county office. Once filed/registered, the county of where you registered shall be endorsed upon and recorded with each certificate of civil marriage. (M.S. 517.04)*

*Once registered, officiants would be able to perform a marriage ceremony anywhere in the State of Minnesota.*

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## Statutes for Officiants

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### ***M.S. 517.06***

*The couple and witnesses must be present at the ceremony, and you must view ID of all four people.*

### ***M.S. 517.09***

*Officiant cannot be the same individual as the applicant and cannot be a witness.*

### ***M.S. 517.10***

*The officiant and witnesses print and sign their names on the certificate. Along with applicants signature of legal names after marriage.*

### ***M.S. 517.13***

*Complete and return the original marriage certificate to the local records office within 5 days after the ceremony to avoid penalty.*

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## Essentials

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*A MN Marriage License must be used in the borders of the State of Minnesota.*

*A license is valid for six months. The marriage license will state the date range that it is valid for.*

*The Marriage License is to be kept by the officiant and the Marriage Certificate is to be returned to the county office where the applicants applied.*

*Witnesses must be 16 years of age or older.*