

OHIO CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT MARRIAGE

SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE INITIATIVE PETITION MARRIAGE PROTECTION AMENDMENT

Following are the **most common errors that caused rejection or return of petitions**. Please help us avoid these errors in this “second round” of signature collection.

GENERAL

- Note: As the person collecting and witnessing signatures, you are referred to as the “solicitor.”
- All parts of the petition must be in INK. No pencil!
- All signatures on each petition form must be from the **SAME COUNTY**. You must start a new form for each county.
- Copies of the petition forms (on plain white paper) are permissible. Each petition form submitted must include all four pages.

PAGE ONE (“Initiative Petition” appears at the top of this page.)

- The line after “Number” at the top of the page should be left blank.
- In the line after “Issued To,” place your name (the name of the solicitor.)
- “Date of Issuance” – This date must be equal to or prior to the date of the first signature collected.

PAGE TWO (“NOTICE” appears at the top of this page.)

- The first section of this page is intended for paid petitioners. However, as a volunteer solicitor you are required to write one word in this section. In the first blank line after the word “receive,” simply write “Nothing.” The other blank lines in that paragraph are to be left blank.
- In the signature area, the column for “Ward/Precinct” should be left blank.
- “Township” vs. “City or Village”: If the signer lives in both a township and a city, he/she should use whichever he/she would ordinarily use in his address.
- As noted above, all signatures on each form must be from the **SAME COUNTY**.
- If you note that a signature line is incorrect for any reason (not registered, wrong county, duplicate, etc.), simply draw a line through that line and write your initial (initial of the solicitor) in the margin.
- **NOTE: AS THE SOLICITOR, YOU CANNOT SIGN YOUR OWN PETITION.**

PAGE FOUR (“TEXT OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT” appears at the top of this page.)

- NOTE: Proper completion of this section is critical, as this section contains your sworn statement.
- Under “STATEMENT OF SOLICITOR,” on the first blank line, write or print your name (the name of the solicitor.)
- VERY IMPORTANT: In the second line of this paragraph there is a small blank line in which you must place the number of signatures that you have witnessed on this form. This number should include even those signatures that you have lined through for any reason. Example: If you have all 30 lines completed, but line through two signatures because you noticed that they were from the wrong county, the quantity in this line should be 30.
- In the line above “Signature of Solicitor,” sign your name. In the following two lines, write or print your address.

PLEASE RETURN PETITIONS TO THE OHIO CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT MARRIAGE
OFFICE NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 21ST

PETITION INSTRUCTIONS

Thank you very much for circulating a petition to PROTECT MARRIAGE. Because your time and energy are valuable, we are providing these instructions to guide you error-free through the petition process. Even small errors can help opponents of marriage legally challenge your petition, so it is very important that you read and follow these instructions.

Step 1: Getting Started

1. Please fill in the three spaces under the title on page one as follows:

Number: Please leave this blank. It will be filled in at a later date.

Issued To: Please print your full name.

Date of Issuance: Please insert the date you start collecting signatures.

Example:

Number	<u> <i>(leave this blank)</i> </u>	
Issued to	<u> <i>(write your name here)</i> </u>	Date of issuance <u> <i>(mm/dd/yyyy)</i> </u>
	(Name of solicitor)	(must be on or before all signatures on the petition)

2. At the top of PAGE 2 of your part-petition, complete the compensation statement before circulating the petition, as follows:

Since you are a volunteer circulator and are not being paid, insert “Nothing” in the first blank line, as follows:

NOTICE
Whoever knowingly signs this petition more than once, signs a name other than one’s own, or signs when not a qualified voter, is liable to prosecution.
In consideration for service in soliciting signatures to this petition the solicitor has received or expects to receive \$ <u> <i>NOTHING</i> </u> from _____ whose address is _____

Step 2: Circulating the Petition

Take your petition to friends, family, and business associates. **Ask them to sign the petition only if they have not previously signed one. No Person is permitted to sign the petition more than once.** Please be sure to follow these simple guidelines so all your work can be counted:

1. Before they sign, ask each person if they are registered to vote and, if they are, in which county they are registered.
 - Only Ohio registered voters may sign the petition
 - Only registered voters from one county may sign on the same petition. If you intend to obtain signatures from individuals from more than one county, please use a new petition for each county.
2. Signatures must be in CURSIVE and in INK, just as their signature appears at the Board of Elections. **If a signature is hard to read, ask the voter to also print their name in the box with their signature to aid verification by the Board of Elections.**
3. **Do NOT sign the petition on which you are listed as the circulator.** Please have another circulator witness your signature on another petition. Only one person may circulate each petition.
4. Keep in mind: the box marked “Ward/Precinct” does not need to be filled in if the voter is unsure or does not know. All other boxes must be filled in by each voter that signs the petition. The signer’s address must be the same address at which he or she is registered with the board of elections.
5. Do NOT allow any person to sign for another (*e.g.* husband for wife, or vice versa). Be certain that you personally witness every signature. You should not leave this petition on a table for others to sign and then to be picked up at a later date. Nor should you allow it to be circulated in a crowd and then returned to you.
6. Only one person may circulate each petition page. For example, one person may not start circulating a petition page and another person finish the page.
7. A signer may remove his name by drawing a line through it. As a circulator, you may strike any name (prior to filling out the Statement of Solicitor.)
8. The circulator should carry voter registration forms with him. You can contact your local county election board, the Secretary of State, or the OCPM for additional forms. You can also register on the Web at www.OhioMarriage.com. The petition circulator should register a signer if he’s not registered or if he is not sure whether he’s registered. To ascertain registration, the circulator can ask: 1) whether the signer has voted at least once in the last 4 years; and 2) whether he/she has moved in the last 4 years, and, if so, whether his address change has been made with the election board. If the answer is “No” or “Not sure” to either question, the circulator should ask him/her to fill out a registration form and be sure the registration form is dated with the SAME DATE that is with the person’s signature on the petition. (17-year-olds may register if they will be 18 by November 2, 2004.) The circulator should then take the completed voter registration form from the person and turn it in to the OCPM along with the petition page.

Step 3: Completing the Statement of Solicitor

1. Carefully count the total number of signatures you have collected on the petition and fill in the number on the “STATEMENT OF SOLICITOR” section on the last page of your petition. An inaccurate count could invalidate your entire effort. Completely fill in all the information in this section.
2. Make sure you sign the “STATEMENT OF SOLICITOR” and fill out all information on the last page of the petition. Below is what a completed Statement of Solicitor should look like:

<p>STATEMENT OF SOLICITOR</p> <p>I, <u> (write your name here) </u>, declare under penalty of election falsification that I am the circulator of the foregoing petition paper containing the signatures of <u> (# collected) </u> electors, that the signatures appended hereto were made and appended in my presence on the date set opposite each respective name, and are the signatures of the persons whose names they purport to be, and that the electors signing this petition did so with knowledge of the contents of same.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u> (Sign your name here) </u> Signature of Solicitor</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u> (Write in your street address here) </u> Number and Street Address of Solicitor</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u> (Write in your city, state & zip here) </u> City/Village, State ZIP of Solicitor</p>
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Step 4: Returning Your Petition

Follow these simple guidelines for returning your petition(s):

1. Return ALL petitions with signatures. These are the pages that are **unnumbered**. Even if you have only one signature from a single county, that signature can make a difference.
2. Complete the *Petition Return Checklist* on the next page (for each petition) and mail your completed petition and checklist to the following address. **Be sure you have sufficient postage.**

Ohio Campaign to Protect Marriage
11175 Reading Road, Suite 103
Cincinnati, Ohio 45241

Please return your petitions as quickly as possible. There is limited time, so even if you don't fill up an entire petition, send what you have as early as possible. Please return petitions as they are completed. All petitions must be returned by September 21, 2004.

Petition Return Checklist

- | | | | |
|----|--|-----|----|
| 1. | I have completed the information on the first page of the Petition. | Yes | No |
| 2. | I have completed the compensation statement at the top of page 2. | Yes | No |
| 3. | I have completed the STATEMENT OF CIRCULATOR by inserting my name and the number of signatures obtained, my signature, and my address. | Yes | No |
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Questions? PLEASE do not hesitate to contact us at: (513) 733-5775 in Cincinnati or (614) 920-1490 in Columbus or by e-mail at info@OhioMarriage.com

Please enclose this checklist with each petition and return to:

**Ohio Campaign to Protect Marriage
11175 Reading Road, Suite 103
Cincinnati, Ohio 45241**

Please provide the following information in case we need to contact you:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City State ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Thank you!

INITIATIVE PETITION

Number _____

Issued To _____
(Name of solicitor)

Date of Issuance _____

Amendment to the Constitution Proposed by
Initiative Petition to be Submitted Directly to the Electors

AMENDMENT

Marriage Protection Amendment

TEXT OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Be it resolved by the people of the State of Ohio:

That the Constitution of the State of Ohio be amended by adopting a section to be designated as Section 11 of Article XV thereof, to read as follows:

ARTICLE XV

Section 11. Only a union between one man and one woman may be a marriage valid in or recognized by this state and its political subdivisions. This state and its political subdivisions shall not create or recognize a legal status for relationships of unmarried individuals that intends to approximate the design, qualities, significance or effect of marriage.

COMMITTEE TO REPRESENT THE PETITIONERS

The following persons are designated as a committee to represent the petitioners in all matters relating to the petition or its circulation:

Rev. K.Z. Smith
772 Whittier Street
Cincinnati, OH 45229

Lori A. Viars
20 Edmon Court
Lebanon, OH 45036

Phil Burress
11175 Reading Road, Ste. 103
Cincinnati, OH 45241

NOTICE

Whoever knowingly signs this petition more than once, signs a name other than one’s own, or signs when not a qualified voter, is liable to prosecution.

In consideration for services in soliciting signatures to this petition the solicitor has received or expects to receive _____ from _____ whose address is _____.

Before any elector signs the part-petition, the solicitor shall completely fill in the above blanks if the solicitor has received or will receive any consideration, and if the solicitor has not received and will not receive any consideration, the solicitor shall insert “nothing.”

MUST USE MOST RECENT ADDRESS ON FILE WITH BOARD OF ELECTIONS
(Sign with ink or indelible pencil. Your name, residence and date of signing must be given)

Signature	County	Township	Rural Route or other Post Office Address	Date of Signing
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(Voters who do not live in a municipal corporation should fill in the above information called for by the headings above)

(Voters who reside in a municipal corporation should fill in the information called for by heading printed below)

Signature	County	City or Village	Street and number	Ward/ Precinct	Date of Signing
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					
12.					

MUST USE MOST RECENT ADDRESS ON FILE WITH BOARD OF ELECTIONS
(Sign with ink or indelible pencil. Your name, residence and date of signing must be given)

Signature	County	Township	Rural Route or other Post Office Address	Date of Signing
-----------	--------	----------	--	-----------------

(Voters who do not live in a municipal corporation should fill in the above information called for by the headings above)

(Voters who reside in a municipal corporation should fill in the information called for by heading printed below)

Signature	County	City or Village	Street and number	Ward/ Precinct	Date of Signing
13.					
14.					
15.					
16.					
17.					
18.					
19.					
20.					
21.					
22.					
23.					
24.					
25.					
26.					
27.					
28.					
29.					
30.					

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STATEMENT OF SOLICITOR

I, _____, declare under penalty of election falsification that I am the circulator of the foregoing petition paper containing the signatures of _____ electors, that the signatures appended hereto were made and appended in my presence on the date set opposite each respective name, and are the signatures of the persons whose names they purport to be, and that the electors signing this petition did so with knowledge of the contents of same.

Signature of Solicitor

Number and Street Address of Solicitor

City/Village, State, ZIP of Solicitor

**WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION
IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE**