



# Info on Who Can Perform Your Marriage Ceremony

**Our office does not provide "Justice of the Peace" services at the Courthouse for immediate unions.**

An officiant **who is authorized by a circuit court in Virginia** must perform the ceremony and complete the certificate section on the license.

**If you do not already have someone who is authorized by a circuit court to perform your ceremony, you can find a list of local authorized civil celebrants below.** If you want to get married at the courthouse or do not have an officiant, you can contact one of them directly to perform the ceremony. They are not affiliated with our office but are authorized to perform the ceremony. See the following page for options for friends or family to get authorized to perform the ceremony.

## Local Civil Celebrants

**Wayne Harper**

**Phone #: 540-578-1191**

**Email: 1wayneharper3@gmail.com**

**Languages Spoken: English**

**Tina Abreu**

**Phone #: 540-282-7258**

**Email: civil.tabreu@gmail.com**

**Languages Spoken: English, Spanish**

**Umar Ali**

**Phone #: 540-560-9160**

**Email: umarfali77@gmail.com**

**Languages Spoken: English, Spanish, Urdu**

**Phyllis Armentrout Wong**

**Phone #: 540-433-0457**

**Email: officiant26@gmail.com**

**Languages Spoken: English**

**§ 20-27. Fee for**

**Celebrating Marriage**

**Any person authorized under §20-25 to celebrate the rites of marriage shall be permitted to charge the parties a fee for the ceremony not to exceed \$75 for each ceremony. See the complete code section for more information regarding additional services and travel charges permitted.**



# Options for Friends or Family Members

Our office does not provide "Justice of the Peace" services at the Courthouse for immediate unions.

An officiant **who is authorized by a circuit court in Virginia** must perform the ceremony and complete the certificate section on the license.

**VIRGINIA DOES NOT RECOGNIZE ONLINE ORDINATIONS SO IF YOU HAVE SOMEONE WHO PAID TO BE ORDAINED ONLINE TO BE ABLE TO PERFORM YOUR CEREMONY, IT IS NOT SUFFICIENT UNLESS THEY ARE ALSO AUTHORIZED BY A CIRCUIT COURT AS A ONE-TIME CIVIL CELEBRANT.**

## Virginia Residents Only

### One-Time Civil Celebrant

If you want an individual *who resides in the Commonwealth of Virginia* to perform the ceremony and they are not currently authorized by a circuit court in Virginia to perform ceremonies, the individual will need to contact a circuit court within their judicial circuit to petition to become a one-time civil celebrant. If the individual does not meet the requirements under §20-25 to become a civil celebrant, they will not be able to perform the ceremony as **VIRGINIA DOES NOT RECOGNIZE ONLINE ORDINATIONS** and they must be authorized by a Virginia circuit court. It does not matter where the couple resides or where the ceremony will be held in Virginia for the authorization process.

## Out-of-State Individuals

### Options for Out-of-State Individuals to be Authorized:

There are currently **NO** options for out-of-state individuals to be authorized as a civil celebrant under §20-25 since they must reside in the Commonwealth to petition in their judicial circuit. Virginia does not recognize online ordinations.

If you want an individual who does not live in Virginia and may be authorized under §20-23 as a minister/pastor to perform the ceremony, the individual will need to apply for authorization to perform a one-time ceremony in our Civil Division. Information can be found here under Minister/Religious Authorization.