



## STONE COUNTY

# RECORDER OF DEEDS

### OBTAINING A MARRIAGE LICENSE IN STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI

#### WHERE TO APPLY

Office of Amy Larson, Recorder of Deeds  
108A 4<sup>th</sup> Street / PO Box 186  
Galena, Missouri 65656  
(417) 357-6362 Phone  
(417) 357-8131 Fax

#### HOW TO APPLY

**Both** parties must appear **in person** at the Recorder's office with proper identification and proof of social security number.

#### WHEN TO APPLY

Monday through Friday (**except legal holidays**) 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

A **nonrefundable license fee** of **\$51** must be paid in **CASH** at the time of Application. You may take the license with you if the ceremony is to be performed within 30 days of the application. It is a **misdemeanor** for anyone to perform a marriage ceremony **if a license is not presented prior to the ceremony** (451.120 RSMo.). The **marriage is invalid** if the ceremony takes place **before the license is picked up**.

#### WHEN TO PICKUP LICENSE

License must be picked up before ceremony can be performed. Anyone previously designated may pick up the license. The marriage license is **valid for 30 days** from date of issuance and may be used anywhere within the State of Missouri.

#### WHAT TO DO WITH THE LICENSE

You are responsible for delivering the license to the person who solemnizes your marriage. The person performing the ceremony must complete the left portion of the license, **have two witnesses sign it**, and return it to the Recorder's office within **15 days** after the wedding. The license becomes a permanent record. (The right portion is the Marriage Certificate that is filled out by the minister and retained by the parties as evidence of the marriage)

#### PROOF OF AGE IDENTIFICATION

Identification and proof of age is required of **ALL persons**. The following proof of age documents will be accepted, **along with a photo ID**.

- **AGES 15 THROUGH 17:** Birth Certificate (legal, certified) **AND** Parental Consent
- **AGE 18:** Birth Certificate (legal, certified)

- **AGE 19 AND OVER:** Valid Drivers License

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

Blood relatives, down to and including first cousins, **MAY NOT** marry under the laws of the State of Missouri. No distinction is made between resident and non-resident individuals.

Applicants (a male and a female) must be 18 years of age to marry without parental consent. Persons between the ages of 15 and 17 may obtain a license with the consent of a parent or legal guardian. Parents or legal guardians must give consent in person (at the time of application) and have proper identification and proof of custody if divorced or never married. If legal guardian is giving consent, a certified copy of guardianship papers must be presented.

Previously married applicants must give the date their last marriage ended. Persons divorced less than 30 days may apply for a marriage license if they acknowledge, in writing, they understand the divorce can be appealed or set aside within 30 days by the court of jurisdiction.

## **MARRIAGE LICENSE CHECKLIST**

### **To Apply:**

- **\$51 Cash**
- Proper identification
- Proof of Social Security Number
- Proof of Age
- Parent or guardian for consent (Age 15-17)

## **AFTER YOUR MARRIAGE**

### **Name Change and Marital Status (Female)**

You should contact the following agencies to change your name and notify them of your marital status:

#### **Any Department of Revenue Driver's License Section**

#### **Voter Registration - County Clerk**

Office of Judy Berkstresser, County Clerk of Stone County  
108 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street /PO Box 45  
Galena, MO 65656  
(417) 357-6127 Phone  
(417) 357-6861 Fax

#### **Social Security Administration**

806 N Jefferson  
Springfield, MO 65802  
(417) 866-7210

Obtaining a Certified Copy of your Marriage License: (Used for name change and marital status change). **After the marriage license is returned to the Recorder's Office**, a certified copy of the license may be obtained. Social Security requires a certified copy of license for name change.

**Marriage License Fee Distribution:**

- \$15.00 Children's Trust Fund of Missouri
- \$10.00 Shelter Fund for Abused Women
- \$15.00 Stone County Revenue
- \$04.00 User Fee
- \$07.00 County Employees Retirement System