

## *Applying for a Marriage License*

A marriage license **MUST** be purchased **BEFORE** you get married. The couple must apply together at any one of our three offices.

Marriage license application kiosks are available at our offices and at [www.SBCRecorder.com](http://www.SBCRecorder.com) to input your information before you appear in person.

### *Requirements:*

Current, government-issued photo ID, such as a driver's license or passport.

If either applicant has been divorced or has terminated a state registered domestic partnership within the last ninety (90) days, a certified copy of the final dissolution of marriage or termination of domestic partnership is required.

### *Fees*

\$99.00 Regular/Public Marriage license

Licenses are valid for a period of ninety (90) days from the date of issuance.

## *Recording a Marriage License*

You may be married by a priest, rabbi, minister or other **authorized** officiant of your choice. After the ceremony the officiant must return the license to the Clerk-Recorder's Office for recording.

Licenses are typically recorded and copies may be purchased 2 weeks after the ceremony.

Emergency (same day) recording is available for an additional fee of \$12.00.

## *Certified Copies of the Marriage Certificate*

The fee is \$14.00 per copy, plus mailing fees, and a credit card fee of \$1.50, if applicable.

Copy requests can be made in person or by mail or fax. Copy applications are available to print from our website at [www.SBCRecorder.com](http://www.SBCRecorder.com)

If sending a mail or fax request a sworn statement must also be submitted. The sworn statement must be signed under penalty of perjury by the requestor, and the certificate of acknowledgement, notarized before Notary Public **MUST** be completed.

If you are using a marriage certificate to change your name, see the back page for information regarding the Name Equality Act of 2007.

## *Marriage Ceremonies*

### *Ceremony Fees:*

\$104.00 SB Hall of Records premises  
\$104.00 Santa Maria or Lompoc premises  
\$116.00 SB Sunken Gardens or Mural Room  
\$116.00 SM or Lompoc outside premises

Note: you must reserve the Sunken Gardens separately through the Parks Department website [www.countyofsb.org/parks](http://www.countyofsb.org/parks). The Mural Room must be reserved through the General Services Department at 805-568-3070.

### *Spanish Available*

Ceremonies are performed in all three of our offices by appointment only. Call or email for available appointment dates and times.

Ceremony Appointment Line (805) 568-2510

You must reserve your ceremony by phone or by email at [Cik-RecHelpDesk@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:Cik-RecHelpDesk@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)

Your non-refundable \$23.00 reservation fee application then must be faxed to: (805) 737-7708.

A marriage license must be obtained prior to a ceremony appointment. If you would like to purchase a license and ceremony at the same time, notify our staff when making your appointment.

### *Times:*

Ceremony only 30 minutes  
License and Ceremony 60 minutes

There is a fifteen (15) minute grace period before the ceremony is cancelled. The couple will then need to reschedule another ceremony time.

### *Santa Barbara*

Ceremonies may be performed on the Second Floor of the Santa Barbara Courthouse or on the steps of the back entrance to the Hall of Records. A maximum of 10 guests is permitted. Ceremonies can be performed in the Sunken Gardens or the Mural Room for an additional fee; separate reservations through the Parks Dept. or General Services are required.

*Lompoc* A maximum of 6 guests is permitted.

*Santa Maria* A maximum of 10 guests is permitted.

There is to be **no** flower petals, rice granules, confetti, or birdseed thrown on or outside the premises.

## *Witness Fee*

Regular marriage ceremonies are required to have at least one witness in addition to the Officiant.

If you do not have a witness available, one may be provided for an additional fee of \$51.00.

This service is only available for ceremonies performed in one of the Santa Barbara County Clerk-Recorder Offices.

## *Would you like a friend or family member to perform your ceremony?*

The Santa Barbara County Clerk-Recorder is designated as the Commissioner of Civil Marriages for Santa Barbara County. As the Commissioner of Civil Marriages, the **Clerk-Recorder may appoint individuals as Deputy Civil Marriage Commissioners** in order to marry specific couples (pursuant to California Family Code Section 401(a) & (b) and County Code Section 2-10.7, pursuant to Government Code 26861).

### **Applicant Requirements:**

The person wishing to be appointed as a Deputy Civil Marriage Commissioner for a Day must:

- ❖ Be 18 years or older.
- ❖ **Appear in person to be sworn in and receive a short instructional course and paperwork.**
- ❖ Show valid photo ID, such as a driver's license or passport---required to verify age and identity.
- ❖ Appointment fee is \$51.00.

Applicants must complete an Application for Appointment of Deputy Marriage Commissioner of Civil Marriages for a Day and submit to the Clerk-Recorder's Office, then appear in person at any one of our three offices during normal business hours M-F.

Applications are available at our website [www.SBCRecorder.com](http://www.SBCRecorder.com) under the Marriage Licenses and Ceremonies heading. They are also available in paper form at any of our three offices.

The Clerk-Recorder's office is not open on Saturday or Sunday; applicants must arrive to be sworn in by 4:00pm on Friday.

## Santa Barbara County Clerk-Recorder

### Locations & Hours:

#### Santa Barbara

Hall of Records  
1100 Anacapa Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
Office Hours: 8:00am – 4:30pm M-F  
General Questions: (805) 568-2250

- ❖ Appointment required for Ceremony
- ❖ Appointments: 8:00am – 4:00pm M-F
- ❖ Ceremony Appt Line : (805) 568-2510
- ❖ Reservation Fax Line: (805) 737-7708

#### Santa Maria

Betteravia Complex  
511 East Lakeside Parkway, Suite 115  
Santa Maria, CA 93455  
Office Hours: 9:00 am – 11:00 am and  
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm M-F  
General Questions: (805) 346-8370

- ❖ Appointment required for Ceremony
- ❖ Appointments: 9 -11:00 & 1-3:00 M-F
- ❖ Ceremony Appt Line: (805) 568-2510
- ❖ Reservation Fax Line: (805) 737-7708

#### Lompoc

Lompoc Civic Center Plaza  
401 East Cypress Street, Rm 102  
Lompoc, CA 93436  
Office Hours: 9:00 am – 11:00 am and  
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm M-F  
General Questions: (805) 737-7705

- ❖ Appointment required for Ceremony
- ❖ Appointments 9-11:00 & 1-3:00 M-F
- ❖ Ceremony Appt Line: (805) 568-2510
- ❖ Reservation Fax Line: (805) 737-7708

To set-up an appointment by email:

[Clk-RecHelpDesk@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:Clk-RecHelpDesk@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)

For further information visit our website:

[www.SBCRecorder.com](http://www.SBCRecorder.com)

NOTE: There is a \$1.50 convenience fee charged for the use of a Visa, MasterCard, or Discover Card.

## The Name Equality Act of 2007

(AB 102, Chapter 567, Statutes of 2007, amended by AB 1143, Chapter 412, Statutes of 2009)

The Name Equality Act allows one party or both parties to a marriage, through the marriage license process, to elect to change the **middle and/or last names** by which that party wishes to be known after solemnization of the marriage. Parties to the marriage **may not** change their **first name** on the marriage license.

Each party applying for a marriage license **may** choose to include on their marriage license the **new name** in the spaces provided on the marriage license application without intent to defraud. Changing one's name through this process can only be done at the time the marriage license is issued.

- ❖ Each party to the marriage **may** adopt any of the following **last names**:
  - The current last name of the other spouse.
  - The last name of either spouse given at birth.
  - A name combining into a single last name **all or a segment of the current last name or the last name of either spouse given at birth.**
  - A hyphenated combination of last names.
- ❖ Each party to the marriage **may** adopt any of the following **middle names**:
  - The current last name of either spouse
  - The last name of either spouse given at birth
  - A hyphenated combination of the current middle name and the current last name of the person or spouse.
  - A hyphenated combination of the current middle name and the birth last name of the person or spouse.

Persons who have legal concerns or questions regarding their decision to include/not include a new name on the marriage license should seek legal advice **before** purchasing the marriage license.

The marriage certificate is used by multiple agencies, each of which have different requirements regarding what documents are acceptable to change your name on their records following marriage. It is recommended that you contact these agencies to verify their requirements prior to applying for a marriage license.

Parties to the marriage **may not add or amend** this information after the marriage license has been issued.



# Marriage License & Ceremony Guide

## Joseph E. Holland

County Clerk, Recorder and Assessor  
Registrar of Voters

Website: [SBCRecorder.com](http://SBCRecorder.com)

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Santa Barbara, CA 93101