

2016 With This Kiss I Thee Wed LLC Contract for Professional Wedding Officiant Services
609-605-8906 email: Marilyn@WithThisKissITheeWed.com

TYPE OF CEREMONY *Please circle one:* Wedding Vow Renewal Civil Union

Check one: _____ Secular (no religious references) or _____ Non-Denominational (reference to God)

CEREMONY DATE: _____ **CEREMONY LOCATION:** _____

Day of Week *circle one:* Sun Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat

Ceremony Start Time: _____ **AM/PM** *Contractual End Time is 40 minutes after Ceremony Start Time.*

BRIDE/GROOM'S LEGAL NAME: _____

Age: _____ **email** *Must be a frequently checked email address:* _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____

BRIDE/GROOM'S LEGAL NAME: _____

Age: _____ **email:** *Must be a frequently checked email address:* _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____

EXACT ADDRESS OF CEREMONY LOCATION *(Full name of Venue, Address, and phone number:*

MUNICIPALITY AND COUNTY WHERE THE CEREMONY WILL BE TAKING PLACE: *This information can be provided by the venue, or if in the case of a home wedding by the owner of the property. In the event of a beach wedding the municipality would be the same municipality which grants the beach permit to the couple.*

APPLYING FOR THE LICENSE

It is the couple's responsibility to be familiar with NJ Marriage Law while applying for a NJ Marriage License. Please call me or send me an email if you have any questions on this topic. 609-605-8906

DAY OF WEDDING PROCEDURES *READ THIS CAREFULLY*

I will arrive at the wedding location 45 minutes before the Contractual Wedding Start Time in order to meet with the two individuals you have chosen to serve as your witnesses. These individuals must be present upon my arrival and be in possession of the paperwork (the four page Marriage Certificate) that the municipality will give you. Therefore, it is **essential** that these two individuals are responsible individuals who are aware of this responsibility and can be depended upon.

I will obtain the signatures of your witnesses at this time, 45 minutes prior to the ceremony start time. The witnesses will sign all four copies in my presence. I will only sign the pink copy (the couple's copy) at this time as a courtesy to the couple. The pink copy is not an official or certified Record of Marriage but it is all the couple will have until the paperwork has been filed by the officiant on behalf of the couple. I will sign the other three pages (two white and one blue) after the ceremony has taken place.

IMPORTANT!! In the event that the couple neglects to apply for a marriage license or for some reason the correct Marriage Certificate from the municipality is not at the wedding location prior to the start of the ceremony, there will be no legal wedding ceremony. A Commitment Ceremony may replace the planned Wedding Ceremony and no references to marriage, or Pronouncement of Marriage will occur. There will be no refunds of monies for failure of performing a wedding ceremony due to lack of paperwork being made available to the officiant prior to the ceremony. ***This is non-negotiable. Your paperwork is the most important detail of the day!***

ABOUT YOU

Now we get to the fun stuff! Your ceremony will be about you and your favorite person in the world. This is one of the most important days of your lives and why you have chosen me to make this the best wedding ceremony experience possible. Once I receive your contract and retainer fee, I will send you a HOMEWORK document explaining what it is that I am looking for.

I hope you enjoy reading the following descriptions of each of the ceremony options while deciding which ceremony style is best for you. If you have special requests, please tell me about them before going under contract.

CEREMONY OPTIONS *Please V the ceremony you want:*

THE ROMANTICS' OPTIONS

The fee for each ceremony in this category is \$475.00

_____ **The Love Letter Ceremony** – A truly romantic ceremony. This ceremony option establishes a romantic anniversary tradition. Couple exchanges private love letters during the ceremony to be read to each other on their first anniversary and every anniversary thereafter. A special hand-crafted box is

included with this ceremony as a keepsake for the couple to house their love letters in their home as a daily visual reminder of their commitment.

_____ **The Oathing Stone Ceremony** – This ceremony is a nod to ancient wedding traditions within a modern wedding ceremony. It was believed that by holding a rock during a vow exchange, the rock was imbued with the couple’s promise, thereby making the commitment last for eternity and setting their promise in stone. The couple is supplied with one larger marital stone and each guest (up to two-hundred guests) will be provided a small river rock to imbue with their well wishes for the couple. Couple collects the stones at the reception in a large bowl or basket (not provided by the officiant) and takes them home to be displayed in their garden or special vase in their home as a daily visual reminder of their commitment. It’s fun, and it’s different! You might consider having guests initial their rocks by providing metallic Sharpies by the collection bowl in reception area. Number of guest rocks needed:

_____ **Pagan / Wiccan Ceremony** – This is the ceremony for couples who want a formal Pagan or Wiccan ceremony within a Sacred Circle and invocation of deities or energies of couple’s preference. This ceremony will include a Handfasting with a Ceremonial Sword (actually a small ceremonial dagger) and Chalice feature, and an optional single Tarot Card Pull by each partner to serve as guidance to navigate any challenges they may each encounter. Ceremony ends with the Jumping of the Broom for Good Luck! The Handfasting Cords are included in this ceremony as a keepsake for the couple to display in their home as a daily visual reminder of their commitment. The other supplies such as the chalice and dagger, tarot cards, and broom are included for ceremonial purposes only and are not gifted to the couple. List up to three colors for the Handfasting Cords: _____

THE LOVERS’ OPTIONS

The fee for each ceremony in this category is \$450.00

_____ **The Handfasting Ceremony** - This ceremony nods to ancient traditions while being part of a mainstream contemporary wedding ceremony. In ancient days, couples ‘Tied the Knot’ to demonstrate their commitment before their family and friends. It’s a beautiful link to the past and a fun experience for your guests who may not ever have experienced a Handfasting before. Handfasting cords are included in this ceremony option and made to your color specifications. Please list up to three colors for the cords: _____

_____ **The Sea Shell Ceremony** – Getting married on the beach? This ceremony honors beach locations or beach themed weddings by including a sand ceremony that demonstrates a joining of individuals and topped off with decorative sea shells to represent the couple and either their children or parents if they are involved in the pouring of the sand. This ceremony is a charming way to involve children or parents in the ceremony but many couples limit this exchange to just themselves. The couple is responsible for buying colored sand or may use sand from the beach. One glass vase and decorative shells are included with this ceremony option as a keepsake for the couple to display in their home as a reminder of their commitment. (Smaller pouring vessels are provided for ceremony purposes and are not sent home with

the couple.) Please indicate the number of shells for immediate family members involved with this feature. _____ Up to 4 family members besides couple is appropriate. (Beyond six people pouring at the table it becomes logistically complicated and very awkward.)

_____ **The Unity Sand Ceremony** – This ceremony is perfect to honor a beach location but is more commonly used as a symbolic feature demonstrating the joining of the couple who is marrying at a venue or a home wedding. This ceremony is a charming way to involve children or parents in the ceremony, but may be exclusive to the couple. Couple is responsible for buying colored sand or they may use beach sand. One glass vase is included with this ceremony option as a keepsake for the couple to display in their home as a reminder of their commitment. Smaller pouring vessels are provided for ceremony purposes and are not sent home with the couple. Up to 4 family members besides couple is appropriate. Number of pouring vessels needed. _____ (More than six people total, at the pouring table becomes logistically complicated and very awkward.)

_____ **The Drinking of the Wine and the Breaking of the Glass Ceremony** – This ceremony option is very appropriate and popular with couples when one is Christian and the other is Jewish. The Drinking of the Wine and the Breaking of the Glass is a feature that ‘marries’ both traditions with elegance. The ceremony may be non-denominational or secular in nature depending on the couple’s preference. Please indicate that preference on the 1st page of this contract. Couple is gifted with a decorative glass wine goblet to take home with them as a keepsake. Two smaller pouring vessels are included for ceremonial purposes but are not sent home with the couple. Couple is responsible for supplying a stomping glass and two different wines (preferably one sweet and one dry, or one white and one red). An old fashioned light-bulb in a sealed plastic bag and wrapped in a towel or pillow case will make a nice, safe, popping sound.

THE SWEETHEARTS’ CEREMONY \$425.00

_____ **The Sweetheart Ceremony** – This ceremony is meaningful and lovely and the one to choose if you’d like to tell your love story without any of the additional ceremony features listed in the above options. The body of the ceremony is secular in nature with the choice of either a secular or non-denominational vow or ring exchange. Please indicate on page 1 of this contract if you prefer those features to be secular or non-denominational.

WEEKDAY ELOPEMENT CEREMONY \$325.00

Available Monday through Thursday only and within a 50 mile round-trip distance of my home.

_____ **The Elopement Ceremony** – This option is for sweethearts eloping on a weekday with a maximum of two (2) guests and only for locations within a 50 mile round-trip distance of my home. This option offers a meaningful and dignified pre-written ceremony with a choice of a non-denominational or secular vow and ring exchange. Please indicate that preference on page 1 of this contract. If you will not be having any guests, I’ll assist you in supplying two individuals to witness the ceremony which is a NJ requirement. Strict adherence to two (2) guests total. If there will be more than two guests please choose The Sweetheart Ceremony above.

TRAVEL FEES: A \$75.00 travel fee exists for all ceremonies outside of a one-hundred (100) mile **round-trip** distance from my location (except for the Elopement Ceremony which is strictly for local weddings). Couple will do a Mapquest search before mailing contract to verify ceremony location **round-trip mileage** from zip code 08330. In example, Cape May, NJ is 88 round-trip miles from my location so it lies within a 100 mile roundtrip distance and does not require an additional travel fee. **Indicate round-trip mileage here:** _____

REHEARSAL FEES: \$250.00 for one hour only (please make sure your bridal party is on time) and based on my availability Monday through Thursday ONLY. Frankly, having your officiant at your rehearsal is one expense you can do without. In the weeks prior to your wedding I provide you with a step-by-step wedding rehearsal guide so you may run your own rehearsal with confidence. Also, your venue has made a living from doing weddings, they usually run the rehearsal anyway since they know what works best in their space and know what they are doing. Seriously, this is \$250.00 you could save for other things.

If you do opt for my presence at your rehearsal, the usual additional travel fees will apply for locations beyond my travel range. Since this will be a separate date other than your wedding date, you must verify my availability for that Monday through Thursday and payment of the rehearsal fee will be paid when the balance of ceremony fees are due.

I am not available on the following dates: Christmas Day and Eve, New Year's Day and Eve, Thanksgiving Day, and Mother's Day. I usually decline beach weddings in July and August due to heat.

This agreement, made between **With This Kiss I Thee Wed LLC**, (known in this contract as the officiant) and _____ and _____ (known in this contract as the couple) is for the purpose of retaining the officiant to create and perform a wedding or vow renewal on the couple's behalf. The officiant is not hired for the day, but for the time frame indicated on this contract.

Retainer to hold date is half of the full ceremony fee. Be advised that a **non-refundable** retainer fee of half the full ceremony fee is required when going under contract to secure the ceremony date. The ceremony will be released to the couple for their review and approval **once all fees have been paid in full** and all checks have cleared. All balances must be paid in full at least thirty (30) days prior to the ceremony date. Once the ceremony has been released to the couple, no monies will be refunded should the couple cancel the officiant's services.

RETAINER PAYMENT RECEIVED ON _____ **to be filled in by officiant**
Returned or bounced checks will need to be satisfied and also cover bank fees. Bounced checks will result in payment by money order, certified check, or cash payment prior to the release of the ceremony or the ceremony being performed.

The officiant agrees to provide ceremony services to the couple on _____, 20_____
at the location and time specified on the 1st page of this contract. Any change of time or location by the couple must be agreed upon by the officiant.

The agreed upon fee for services is \$ _____ and includes the ceremony fee, travel and rehearsal fees if they are applicable. Failure of the couple to pay the above stated compensation in full when due releases the officiant from providing any services to the couple or refunding any monies already paid under this agreement. Write the payment due date (date 30 days prior to the ceremony date) here: _____, 20_____

Officiant agrees to be available to the couple to provide support and guidance during the prep and planning stages required for the ceremony by email or phone until the conclusion of the actual ceremony is performed. After the ceremony the officiant will file the paperwork on the couple's behalf and will provide information to assist the couple to obtain their own Certified Record of Marriage and the name change procedures. Likewise, **the couple agrees** to be available to the officiant via email or phone call for purposes deemed necessary for the completion and execution of the ceremony. **Officiant agrees** to perform the ceremony in a professional and respectful manner, in accordance to the ceremony chosen by the couple.

In the event that the officiant is unable to perform the ceremony for an unexpected personal emergency, every effort will be made to provide a substitute to officiate the ceremony as agreed or the couple will be entitled to a full refund of monies paid. **If the emergency is the result of a natural disaster, or force majeure**, the officiant will make every effort to reschedule the ceremony in order to accommodate the couple. If a mutually acceptable rescheduling cannot be reached, the officiant is not responsible for refunding any monies already paid. Furthermore, in the event that the ceremony cannot be executed as a result of the officiant's death, every effort will be made by the estate to secure another officiant to satisfy the terms of the contract. In the event that securing the services of a new officiant is not possible, the couple agrees that a full refund of all monies paid will be the full extent of damages they are entitled to, and no further damages may be sought against the officiant's family or any person affiliated with With This Kiss I Thee Wed LLC.

This contract once signed will lock both the officiant and the couple to the time and location of the ceremony specified on page 1 of this contract. For this purpose, if for any reason a decision is made by the couple not to use the services of the officiant after booking the date, the retainer fee is non-refundable. If the ceremony has already been released to the couple, all monies paid will be non-refundable. Email correspondence between the couple and the officiant to cancel services will suffice and serve as an amendment to this contract.

This contract once signed is considered by all within to be legal and binding in accordance to the conditions set forth herein, and all shall abide by the agreed upon terms.

If the date or time is changed by the couple or if the start time is delayed causing a scheduling conflict for the officiant, the couple understands that the officiant has the right to leave without performing the

ceremony and without refunding any monies paid by the couple. **The couple also understands** that in order for the officiant to legally perform a ceremony under NJ law, the Marriage Certificate in the case of a wedding, (or a certified Record of Marriage in the case of a vow renewal) **MUST** be provided to the officiant prior to the ceremony start time. The ceremony will not take place without the officiant being in possession of the Certificate of Marriage issued by the correct municipality prior to the ceremony. No monetary compensation will be made to the couple by the officiant if they fail to present the officiant with the correct and required legal paperwork. This officiant requires being in possession of the Certificate of Marriage the municipality gives the couple no less than forty-five (45) minutes prior to the ceremony start time and being provided with two witnesses at that time.

Partner Signature: _____ Date: _____

Partner Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Officiant: _____ Date: _____

Thank you for choosing me to be your officiant!

Preference of Officiant's attire:

_____ Minister Robe and Stole (***worn at the officiant's discretion on hot summer beach weddings***)

_____ Dress clothes with Minister Stole (***A minister's stole is like a long decorative scarf, usually white, and hangs from around the neck and in front of the officiant's clothes.***)

_____ Dress or Dress Slacks

Mail contract and retainer fee to:

Marilyn D'Auria
240 Regents Cir
Mays Landing, NJ 08330

Check, money order, or certified check may be made to either:

Marilyn D'Auria or With This Kiss I Thee Wed LLC

Upon the time the couple applies for their marriage license, they will need the name and address of their officiant so please keep that in mind.