

Dr. Stephan J. Smith

Wedding Officiant

Services & Fees

My fees for conducting your ceremony are simple and differ mainly on whether or not you want a rehearsal. Many couples like a rehearsal if they're having a larger wedding with a more elements in the ceremony or more attendants standing with them. A rehearsal helps everyone know their parts and places and makes the bride and groom feel more relaxed about how everything will flow. If your ceremony is simpler, smaller or perhaps you've done this before, maybe you don't need a rehearsal.

My fees are as follows:

Option 1 - Simple Ceremony - \$150, paid in advance

This option uses a standard ceremony at a location of your choosing, as well as unlimited phone and email communication. I arrive at the time you designate to conduct your service. Please be sure to have two legal adults present to sign your license as witnesses. Following your ceremony, your license is signed, you get a copy and I return the other to the County Clerk.

Option 2 - Custom Ceremony without Rehearsal - \$300

This option includes a custom ceremony at your location, a face to face "get to know you" meeting and unlimited phone and email communication. I arrive at least 30 minutes prior to your wedding time to fill out the minister's information on your marriage license. Following your ceremony, your part of the license is signed, you get a copy and I return the other to the County Clerk. Again, please be sure to have two legal adults present to sign your license as witnesses, (possibly bridesmaids or groomsmen).

Option 3 - Custom Ceremony with Rehearsal - \$400

This option includes everything in *Option 2*, plus a rehearsal at the time and place of your choosing, usually lasting 45-60 minutes. Last minute ceremony changes can be made as we smooth out any issues during the rehearsal.

The only thing extra that I charge for is travel distances over 50 miles from my home outside of Flint, which doesn't happen often. I accept cash and checks made out to Dr. Stephan Smith. I also accept payments through PayPal and Venmo. I can be reached at 810-516-7381.

If you decide to book me for your special day, I ask for a 50% retainer to hold your date, which can be paid at our initial meeting or within a week afterwards. Since retainers are meant in part to save your date from other bookings, they are sadly non-refundable unless you cancel my services at least 60 days prior to the booked date. The balance of the fee is due either at the rehearsal, or if there is no rehearsal, then prior to the ceremony on your wedding day.

Customized ceremonies can include readings of poetry, scripture or favorite quotes. These can be read by friends and/or family members, or if no one else can do it, I will gladly read those pieces. You may add music or songs of your choosing, but these must be done by friends or family because I don't sing! Following the ceremony, we will sign your marriage license, allowing the opportunity for photography of the signing. I do ask that license signing be done prior to the rest of your photography unless you've had most of your photos taken before the ceremony. When we're all finished, I will give you your copy of the signed marriage license, as well as the custom ceremony booklet that I used to conduct your service, as a keepsake for you! I will then take care of sending your license in to the County Clerk's office.