



**Coptic Orthodox Church
Clerical Council for Family Affairs
Americas District**

Please read the following instructions carefully before you fill in the attached application

**Applying for Appealing a Decision of a Diocesan Clerical Council or the Former
General Clerical Council (Old Cases)**

If you would like to appeal a family affair decision that had been issued either by a diocesan clerical council or the former General Clerical Council (headed by H.G. Anba Paula), please follow the steps below:

1. Complete the attached application in its entirety. When the application is complete, press print. In the alternative, download the PDF Application and clearly and legibly print your answers by hand.
2. The application consists of the following main parts:
 - I. Applicant Information
 - II. Spouse Information
 - III. Children Information
 - IV. Marriage & Divorce Information
 - V. Details of Appealed Decision
 - VI. Case Summary
 - VII. Supporting Documents & Certificates
 - VIII. Declaration of Veracity
 - IX. Authorization, Release and Waiver
3. Send your completed and printed application along with copies of the supporting documents and certificates by regular mail to the following CCFFAA address:

**Clerical Council for Family Affairs – Americas District
PO Box 1815
New City, New York 10956
USA
Attn.: Fr. Yacob Ghaly, Secretary of the Council**
4. Prepare a check in the amount of US \$150.00 paid in the order of “Coptic Orthodox Archdiocese of North America.” On the memo line, write “*CCFFAA Application Fee*”. Include your check with your application and mail to the CCFFAA.

Incomplete applications or missing/partial fees may result in delay of processing the case.

The applicant is responsible to notify the CCFFAA by email any change of address or contact information.



**COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH
CLERICAL COUNCIL FOR FAMILY AFFAIRS
AMERICAS DISTRICT**

**APPLICATION FOR APPEALING A DECISION OF A DIOCESAN COUNCIL
OR THE FORMER GENERAL CLERICAL COUNCIL**

I. APPLICANT'S INFORMATION:

FULL LEGAL NAME: FIRST MIDDLE(S) LAST	
DATE OF BIRTH: YYYYMMDD	
PLACE OF BIRTH:	
NATIONALITY: LIST ALL NATIONALITIES CONCURRENTLY POSSESSED	
OCCUPATION:	
CURRENT RESIDENCE ADDRESS:	
PHONE NUMBER: CELL, HOME	
E-MAIL ADDRESS:	
IMMIGRATION STATUS IN COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE:	
DENOMINATION:	
DIOCESE:	
BISHOP:	
PARISH CHURCH:	
FATHER CONFESSOR AND HIS CHURCH:	
CURRENT MARITAL STATUS:	

II. SPOUSE INFORMATION: (THE OTHER PARTY SUBJECT TO THIS APPLICATION)

FULL LEGAL NAME: FIRST MIDDLE(S) LAST	
DATE OF BIRTH: YYYYMMDD	
PLACE OF BIRTH:	
NATIONALITY: LIST ALL NATIONALITIES CONCURRENTLY POSSESSED	
OCCUPATION:	
CURRENT RESIDENCE ADDRESS:	
PHONE NUMBER: CELL, HOME	
E-MAIL ADDRESS:	
IMMIGRATION STATUS IN COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE:	
DENOMINATION:	
DIOCESE:	
BISHOP:	
PARISH CHURCH:	
FATHER CONFESSOR AND HIS CHURCH:	
CURRENT MARITAL STATUS:	

III. FAMILY INFORMATION:

CHILDREN NAMES AND BIRTH DATES:

FULL NAME (FIRST MIDDLE LAST)	DATE OF BIRTH (YYYYMMDD)

IV. MARRIAGE INFORMATION:

DATE OF CHURCH MARRIAGE: YYYYMMDD	
OFFICIATING PRIEST:	
CHURCH: NAME & LOCATION	

DATE OF SEPARATION: YYYYMMDD	
DATE OF CIVIL DIVORCE: YYYYMMDD	
NAME & PLACE OF COURT:	
PRIESTS INVOLVED IN MARITAL CONCILIATION OR COUNSELLING:	

DATE OF ALL PREVIOUS MARRIAGES, IF ANY YYYYMMDD			
TYPE (Church/Civil/Common-law...)			
LOCATION OF EACH MARRAIGE			

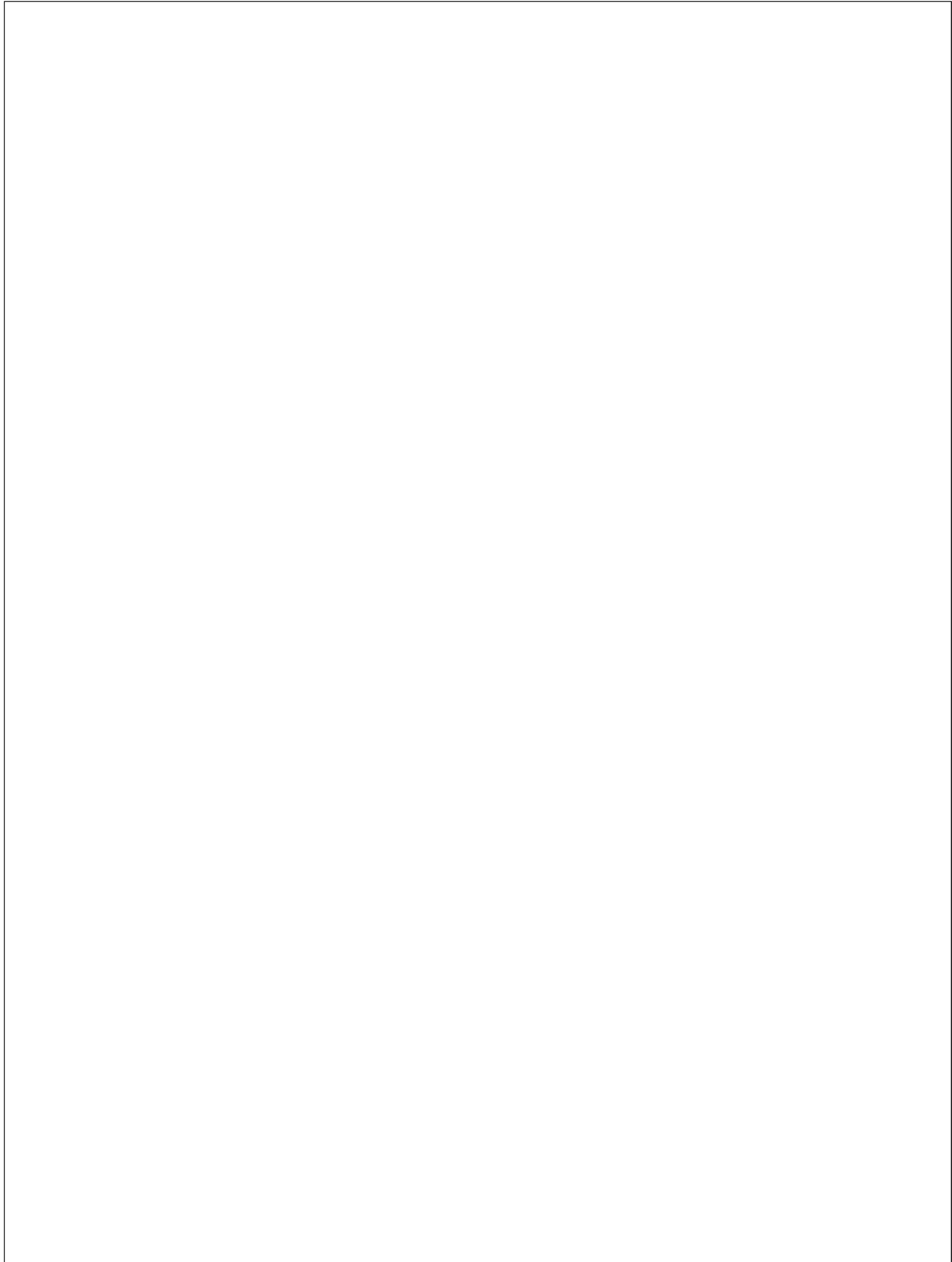
V. DETAILS OF THE APPEALED DECISION:

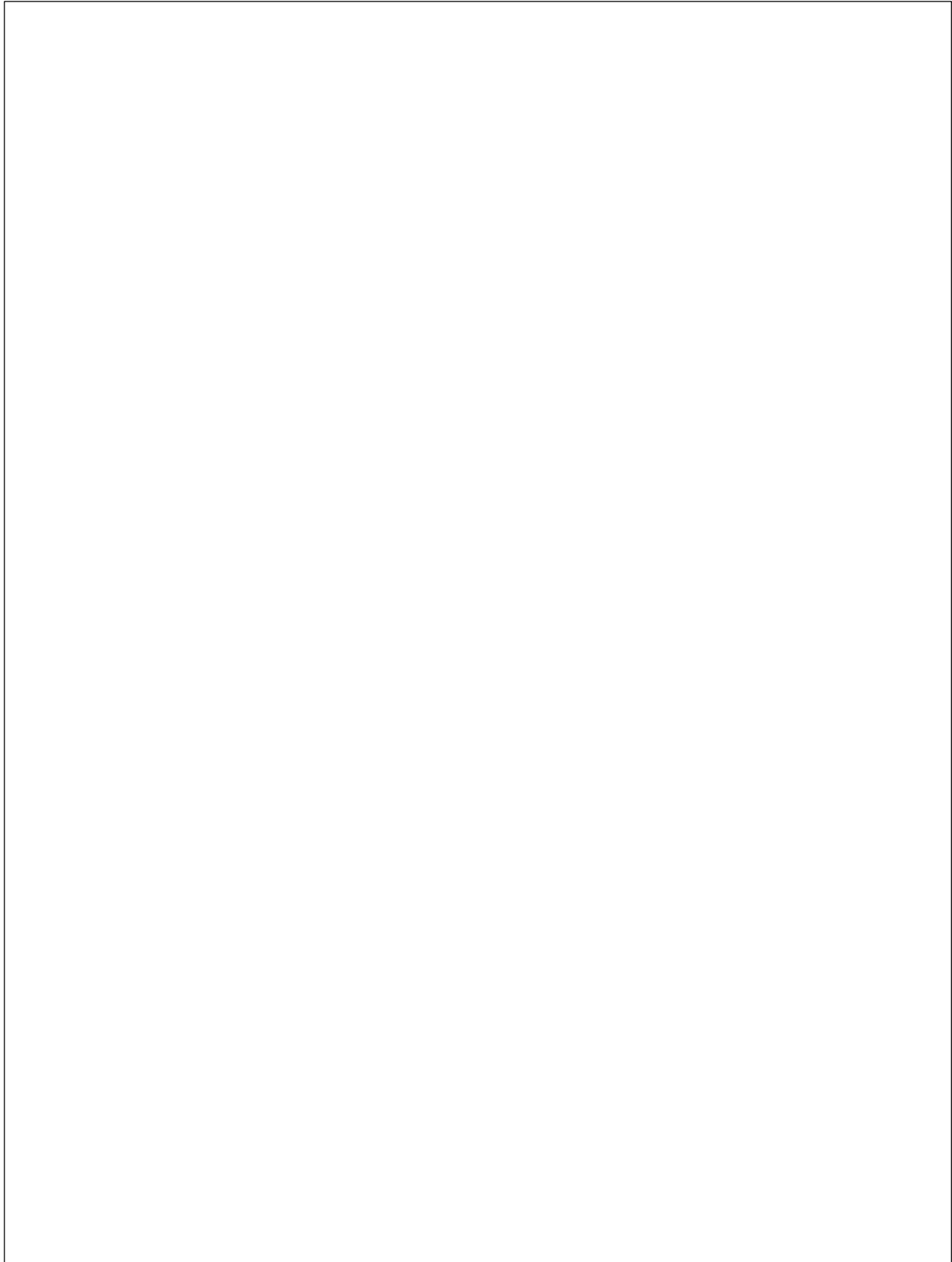
ISSUING COUNCIL:	<input type="checkbox"/> FORMER GENERAL CLERICAL COUNCIL IN CAIRO (HEADED BY H.G. ANBA PAULA) <input type="checkbox"/> DIOCESAN COUNCIL, SPECIFY: _____
DECISION DATE: YYYYMMDD	
DECISION REFERENCE NUMBER(S) AS PER ISSUING COUNCIL:	
PERSON WHO FILED THE ORIGINAL APPLICATION FOR REMARRIAGE:	<input type="checkbox"/> MYSELF <input type="checkbox"/> MY PREVIOUS SPOUSE
BRIEFLY EXPLAIN THE NATURE OF THE DECISION YOU ARE APPEALING	

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS USING YES OR NO:	YES/NO
HAVE YOU EVER HAD ANY OTHER CHURCH (WHETHER COPTIC OR NON-COPTIC) OR CIVIL MARRIAGE(S) AFTER THE ISSUANCE OF THE APPEALED DECISION? IF YES, GIVE DETAILS BELOW	
DID YOU FILE AN APPEAL BEFORE WITH ANY OTHER COPTIC ORTHODOX COUNCILS? IF YES, GIVE DETAILS BELOW	
DID YOU EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS TO THE ISSUING COUNCIL WHETHER IN PERSON, BY PHONE, LETTERS OR ANY OTHER METHOD? IF NO, PLEASE PROVIDE REASONS/DETAILS	
DETAILS/REASONS:	

VI. APPEAL CASE SUMMARY:

PLEASE DETAIL YOUR GROUNDS FOR APPEAL AND ANY NEW INFORMATION THAT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE ISSUING COUNCIL: (MAX. 7000 CHARACTERS OR 3 PAGES, SINGLE-SPACED)





VII. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND CERTIFICATES:

PLEASE PROVIDE A LIST OF YOUR DOCUMENTS AS SET OUT BELOW. SEND ONLY COPIES OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS. THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS MUST BE DISCLOSED:

- CLERICAL COUNCIL DECISION THAT IS BEING APPEALED, IF AVAILABLE
- CIVIL MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE
- CHURCH MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE
- CIVIL DIVORCE DECREE

ALL OTHER DOCUMENTS MUST SUPPORT THE GROUNDS FOR YOUR APPLICATION FOR AN APPEAL, AS MENTIONED ABOVE.

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DOCUMENT NAME	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION
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VIII. DECLARATION:

I, before Almighty God, state that all information submitted to the Clerical Council for Family Affairs – Americas District contained in and pertinent to this application, is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

APPLICANT NAME

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

DATE

WITNESS NAME

WITNESS SIGNATURE

DATE

VIII. AUTHORIZATION, RELEASE AND WAIVER:

I hereby consent to participate voluntarily in an adjudication before the Coptic Orthodox Church Clerical Council for Family Affairs – Americas District (hereinafter “the Council”) and/or its assigned representatives. I hereby authorize the Council to disclose and discuss all or part of the information and/or documents, which I voluntarily submitted in my application to the Council, to my spouse, as named and identified in my application, to the Coptic Orthodox priests assigned to assist the Council, and to other Coptic Orthodox diocesan clerical councils as the Council deems necessary in order to determine my eligibility for a remarriage permit. I agree to release and hold harmless the Council, its members and assignees, from any and all claims of action, liability, and/or damages of any kind arising from, or in any way connected to, the release or use of any information or records pursuant to this Waiver.

I consent to the conditions of the Council and waive any and all rights to obtain and/or use the Council’s case file and all related documents, recordings and notes, all of which are the sole possession of the Council. The Council retains all files in full confidentiality and shall not disclose said documents to any administrative tribunal or court of law. The Council will not release said documents under any condition pursuant to the guidelines of ecclesiastical confidentiality and religious privilege.

I understand that all decisions of the Council are final and not subject to judicial review. I agree to release and hold harmless the Council, its members and assignees, from any and all claims of action, liability, and/or damages of any kind arising from, or in any way connected to, the decision rendered in regards to my application.

If the Council issues an Ecclesiastical Marriage Permit (EMP), thereby allowing me to remarry in the Coptic Orthodox Church, the Council reserves the right to disclose cause(s) of the ecclesiastical annulment or divorce to my future/ [contemplated] fiancé/e. I agree to release and hold harmless the Council, its members and assignees, from any and all claims of action, liability, and/or damages of any kind arising from, or in any way connected to, this limited disclosure.

APPLICANT NAME	APPLICANT SIGNATURE	DATE
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WITNESS NAME	WITNESS SIGNATURE	DATE
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