

## **Marriage Ceremony (Sample)**

**We are gathered today here in the presence of family and friends for the purpose of uniting in marriage \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and to share in the joy of this memorable occasion.**

**Marriage symbolizes the intimate sharing of two lives. It is the development of a balanced relationship that is continually growing and changing. Acceptance of each other's differences and appreciation of each other's individuality creates an atmosphere of understanding and trust where not only joys and successes but also sorrows and disappointments can be shared.**

**Deep knowledge of each other's feelings can only develop fully with patience, genuine caring and respect. This understanding of each other can be the greatest and most fulfilling experience of your lives.**

**No other human ties are more tender and no other vows more important than those you now assume. If you both keep these vows, your home will be happy and full of joy.**

**(Will you please join hands)**

**The contract of marriage is most solemn and is not to be taken into lightly, but thoughtfully and seriously, and with a deep realization of its obligations and responsibilities.**

**\_\_\_\_\_, do you take this person \_\_\_\_\_, to be your lawful wedded spouse? Do you promise to love and comfort him/her, to honor him/her and keep him/her in sickness and in health, in prosperity and adversity, and forsaking all others, be faithful to him/her?**

**\_\_\_\_\_, do you take this person \_\_\_\_\_, to be your lawful wedded spouse? Do you promise to love and comfort him/her, to honor him/her and keep him/her in sickness and in health, in prosperity and adversity, and forsaking all others, be faithful to him/her?**

**(Ask one party to repeat)**

**I, \_\_\_\_\_, take thee \_\_\_\_\_, to be my lawful wedded spouse, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish.**

**(Ask next party to repeat)**

**"I, \_\_\_\_\_, take thee \_\_\_\_\_, to be my lawful wedded spouse, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish."**

**(To first party)**

**Place and hold the ring on the ring finger of your partner's left hand and repeat after me.**

**“This ring I thee give, in token and pledge of my constant faith and enduring love. With this ring I thee wed.”**

**(To second party)**

**Place and hold the ring on the ring finger of your partner's left hand and repeat after me.**

**“This ring I thee give, in token and pledge of my constant faith and enduring love. With this ring I thee wed.”**

**Now that you have joined yourselves in solemn matrimony, may you strive all your lives to meet this commitment with the same love and devotion that you now possess. BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF CIVIL MARRIAGES, I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU MARRIED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.**

**You may seal your vows with a kiss.**

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PERSON PERFORMING THE CEREMONY**

**You are responsible for the accuracy of information documented on this license. THE MARRIAGE LICENSE WILL BE REJECTED FOR REGISTRATION IF IT CONTAINS ERASURES, WHITEOUTS, STRIKEOVERS, RETRACING OF INFORMATION, OR OTHER ALTERATIONS.**

**For imaging purposes, PLEASE USE BLACK OR BLUE INK ONLY.**

**Be sure that witness information is entered correctly, legibly and within the designated box.**

**Please return the completed Marriage License to the County Clerk's Office, P.O. Box 29, Salinas, CA 93902 within ten (10) days after the ceremony for registration. (Family Code §357).**