

## **LEGAL MARRIAGE**

**(You are welcome to forward this article to your friends in Ontario.)**

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Sources: [Service Ontario](#) Marriage License document, Ontario Marriage License, and the *Marriage Act* of Ontario, CANADA

**Service Ontario** has emphasized **two important legal requirements** in your Marriage License document package when you apply for your Ontario Marriage License ([Service Ontario](#)). The reason is because if you want to have a legal marriage, you must observe those **the two important legal requirements**: “(1) You need to check that the person performing your marriage ceremony is an authorized official. (2) It is important to ensure that your marriage is performed properly and legally.”

**Question:** How can I be sure that my marriage is legal?

**Answer:** If you want to be sure that your marriage is legal, the following **two important legal requirements** must be observed at your wedding ceremony:

- (1) Your marriage officiant/reverend **MUST be an authorized official** qualified to officiate (perform) marriage at the time when he/she officiates (performs) your marriage at your wedding ceremony. This is the requirement of the [Marriage Act](#) of Ontario.
- (2) Your marriage officiant/reverend **MUST officiate (perform) your marriage properly and legally** at your wedding ceremony **by signing** in front of the groom, the bride, the 2 adult witnesses, and all the guests on [Line 46 of your Marriage License](#) and your [Record of Solemnization of Marriage](#).

**Main Point:** The authorized marriage officiant/reverend who officiates (performs) your marriage at your wedding ceremony must also be the same person to **publicly sign**. (**Same person officiates and signs**.) Plus, the timing of signing must also be the same time when officiating is in progress (**Same time for signing and officiating**). Only in this way that your marriage is legal.

**Important Actions:** (1). The groom, the bride, and the 2 adult witnesses **MUST watch closely** the authorized marriage officiant/reverend sign on [Line 46 of the Marriage License](#) and the [Record of Solemnization of Marriage](#) when officiating is in progress. (2). **Photos and videos MUST** be taken to **record clearly** the authorized marriage officiant/reverend's signing as **proof that your marriage is legal**.

***Have Dr. Joshua Lam as your marriage officiant/reverend, to make sure that your marriage is legal.***