

**GUIDE FOR U.S. NAVY OF U.S. CITIZEN TO MARRY IN JAPAN**

Drafted by Legal Assistance Office - 253-5594 /5591/ 5592 (revised – Jul 18, 2019)

This guide is prepared for U.S. Navy member of U.S. citizenship under SOFA to wed with a NON-U.S. citizen in Japan.

Members of U.S. Navy must comply with COMNAVFORJAPAN / COMNAVREGJAPANINST 1752.1T (revised on Jul 12, 2018) attached with this guidance. Upon completion all required documents and Unit CO'S approval, please contact with the Legal Assistance Office in order to execute (notarize) your "Affidavit of Competency to Marry."

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**FIRST of all upon your CO's approval, please call us to set up an appointment at the Legal Assistance Office (253-5594/5591/5592).**

1. \_\_\_\_\_: At your appointment, please bring the completed entire package (approval letter signed by your unit CO or OIC for marriage in Japan & all relevant documents). Upon verification of the approval, we will do the next step in #2.

2. \_\_\_\_\_: "**Affidavit of Competency to Marry**" will be executed at the Legal Assistance Office when you bring your ORIGINAL evidence of U.S. Citizenship and any other relevant documents along with your marriage package.

1) Evidence of U.S. Citizenship (Original): valid U.S. Passport; U.S. State Birth Certificate issued your State Vital Office; Naturalization/Citizenship Certificate; or Consular report of birth abroad: NO HOSPITAL RECORD

2) Termination of previous marriage(s): Certified court decree, or death certificate if applicable. If no original is available, copy will be accepted to prove the termination.

Note for your interest: "**Affidavit of Competency to Marry**" is your sworn statement. This "Affidavit" is required by Japanese government for marriage in Japan. If you are Non-U.S. citizenship in the U.S. Navy, please contact with your country consulate representative regarding how to prepare your legal capacity of marriage overseas; i.e. Philippine consulate, Mexican Embassy, etc.

3. \_\_\_\_\_: After the **affidavit of marriage** being executed, Legal Assistance Office provides the following forms, so that you will register your marriage off-town:

- 1) Report of Marriage form (Pink) "Kon-In-Todoke" – must be filled in Japanese writing.
- 2) Translation forms into Japanese language for all your English documents.

4. \_\_\_\_\_: You appear at a Japanese city/ward office off-base with the following documents:

- 1) Your original executed English "Affidavit of Competency to Marry" with its translation
- 2) Your original and one copy of U.S. citizenship evidence with its translation
- 3) Your original military I.D. card with its translation
- 4) Japanese report of marriage (Kon-In-Todoke) filled out correctly in Japanese writing
- 5) Carry some yen currency for getting a certificate of report of marriage

5. \_\_\_\_\_: You may obtain your certificate of acceptance of marriage (kon in juri shomeisho) by paying some fee for the document. This is the legal proof of your marriage.

Big portion (bigger than legal size paper) costs around 1,400 yen;  
Small portion (letter size paper) costs around 400 yen.

**CONGRATULATIONS! - YOU ARE NOW MARRIED!!**  
**(Please review more interested matters on the reverse side.)**

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**NOTES FOR YOUR INTERESTS:**

(1) **ORIGINAL** evidence of U.S. citizenship: U.S. birth certificate issued by your birth State. The original birth certificate must be shown at a Japanese city office for marriage registration. The copy is **not** acceptable off-base; or VALID U.S. passport or Certificate of Naturalization, etc.

(2) **ORIGINAL or copy if unable to locate only limited to** any evidence of termination of all previous marriage(s) – if applicable: Certified copy of divorce decree from a court, or death certificate issued from the official custodian.

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**OTHER THINGS TO KNOW:**

If your fiancée is a NON-SOFA U.S. citizen or Third country national - living in Japan under Japanese visa status, or coming to Japan for marriage, **he/she must get information from his/her respective Embassy/Consulate located in Japan re: how to marry in Japan; i.e. U.S. Embassy Tokyo web site: <http://japan.usembassy.gov/> for U.S. citizen, or third country national's respective embassy or consulate located in Japan.** Each country has its own regulations and document required. Or it is recommended to check with a local city office directly.

**Translation** – Anybody can translate your English documents into Japanese, i.e. your fiancée, co-worker, or a friend. If you are unable to read or write Japanese, you may employ a professional translation agency or obtain assistance from friends, at your own choice.

**AFTER MARRIAGE:**

I.D. CARD issuance – Ask I-PAC or Admin/Personnel Office of your Unit.

Enrolling dependency status to personal records – Ask your Admin/Personnel Officer of your unit.

Social Security Number for your Non-U.S. citizen family member(s) – Social Security Number is assigned to only U.S. citizen or Legal Permanent Resident.

ITIN – Individual Tax Identification Number – If your family member is not eligible to get SSN. W-7 form for ITIN can be downloadable on the internet.

Tricare – Ask Branch Medical Clinic at 253-5571/5572.

SOFA status request – if your acquired family member(s) are from Third country or NON-SOFA U.S. citizen under Japanese visa status, it can be changed to a dependent status under SOFA. If so, please come to the Legal Assistance Office before the visa expires.

Immigrant Visa Petition: I-130 - If your acquired family member(s) is/are non-U.S. citizen(s), U.S. citizen sponsor must file this I-130 petition to USCIS office in Chicago Lockbox as quickly as possible. This is the first step to make your family members be eligible for immigrant visa applicant, to be followed as a green card holder in future.

Or, **you may file the I-130 IN PERSON at U.S. EMBASSY Tokyo or U.S. CONSULATE Naha (called “Military Blanket Exception), if you are active military member STATIONED in Japan. Please visit U.S. Embassy web site regarding Immigrant visa.**

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**Please fill out this sheet and call us at 253-5594 for an appointment.**

Name (first, middle and last): \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT: \_\_\_\_\_ Rotation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: DSN: \_\_\_\_\_ (w) and/or Cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ (frequently access)

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**Parents' full name and nationality:**

Father (First-Middle-Last): \_\_\_\_\_

Nationality: U.S. Citizen or \_\_\_\_\_

Mother (First-Middle-Last-**maiden** name): \_\_\_\_\_

Nationality: U.S. Citizen or \_\_\_\_\_

Your birth order: \_\_\_\_\_ th (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>) son or daughter of the above parents

Legal domicile/address in the U.S.: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of birth: (City/State/Country) \_\_\_\_\_

Current address in Japan: PSC 561 Box \_\_\_\_\_ FPO AP 96310

What is your U.S. citizenship evidence: \_\_\_\_\_  
(U.S. passport, certificate of citizenship/naturalization, or State Birth Certificate, etc.)

Date of termination of previous marriage(s) if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Where it occurred (City, State, and Country) \_\_\_\_\_

**PROSPECTIVE SPOUSE:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

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After you complete this sheet and obtain your required documents, please set up appointment at 253-5594 / 5591 or e-mail at [junko.sakamoto.ja@usmc.mil](mailto:junko.sakamoto.ja@usmc.mil).

Thank you.

With the Armed Forces Overseas )

U.S. Marine Corps Air Station, Iwakuni, Japan) ss:

AFFIDAVIT OF COMPETENCY TO MARRY FOR:

Declarant:

(U.S. CITIZEN) , the SON/DAUGHTER of (Father's name) and (Mother's name) Citizens of the United States of America

Legal domicile:

Date of birth:

Place of birth:

Occupation:

Evidence of Citizenship: U.S. BIRTH CERTIFICATE # , FILED ON IN THE STATE OF or U.S. PASSPORT #

Local address:

I, above named, , being duly sworn, do declare that according to the law of my State I am of legal marriageable age, that I have not married before, and that there is no hindrance, legal or otherwise, to my uniting in marriage in Japan, with , a citizen.

AFFIANT'S NAME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

SERVING WITH THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES AT MARINE CORPS AIR STATION, IWAKUNI, JAPAN

Before me personally appeared AFFIANT'S NAME , who, having produced a Uniformed Services Identification Card, is known to me to be the identical person who is described herein, and who signed and executed the foregoing instrument on this day of 20XX, as a true, free, and voluntary act and deed, for uses, purposes, and considerations therein set forth. And I do further certify that I am Commissioned/Non-Commissioned officer of the Armed Forces of the United States serving in the rank indicated below, that by federal law I am authorized to exercise the powers of a notary without requirement of a seal, and that this document is executed by me in accordance with those powers and in that capacity.