

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

Drafted by Legal Assistance Office - (Revised in Jul 18, 2019)

This guide is prepared for **U.S. Navy member(s) of U.S. citizenship** under SOFA to wed with U.S. Citizen (U.S. Navy member or NON-SOFA U.S. citizen) **in Japan**. No permission is required.

If you plan to marry in Japan, you must follow Japanese Laws and Regulations. Ceremonies performed by religious or fraternal bodies in Japan, are not legal marriages. Marriage in Japan consists of registering marriage at Japanese municipal government office. Only this registration constitutes a legal marriage in Japan.

Just for your information: Pre-marital workshop attendance is recommended. If you are interested in this workshop, please call MCFTB at **253-3754**.

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**Let's start if you plan to marry in Japan**. Check on each step if you finish.

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1. \_\_\_\_\_: Fill out the attached information sheet; then call **253-5594/ 253-5591 / 253-5592 for an appointment**.

2. \_\_\_\_\_: At your appointment, please bring your **ORIGINAL** evidence of U.S. Citizenship and any other relevant documents, such as evidence of name change court order, or termination of previous marriage(s) if applicable:

1) **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**; NO COPY acceptable.

2) Termination of previous marriage(s) if you have ever married before: Certified divorce decree by U.S. court, or death certificate if applicable. Original document is recommended.

3. \_\_\_\_\_: Then, Legal Assistance Office will draft your "**Affidavit of Competency to Marry**" (see the sample attached with this instruction). This "Affidavit" is required by Japanese government for marriage in Japan.

4. \_\_\_\_\_: After your **Affidavit of Competency to Marry** being executed (notarized) at Legal Office, the following forms are provided, in order to 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 for all your English documents.

5. \_\_\_\_\_: 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 issued 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

6. \_\_\_\_\_: Upon registration of your marriage a Japanese City Office, the Certificate of Acceptance of Notification of Marriage (kon in juri shoumeisho) will be issued upon your request. This is the 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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**OTHER THINGS TO KNOW:**

- ☐ If your U.S. citizen fiancée is a **NON-SOFA** (i.e. tourist coming from U.S. or a resident in Japan under Japanese visa status), **he/she must get information directly from U.S. 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.**
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**AFTER MARRIAGE:**

- ☐ **Translation** – Anybody can translate your English documents into Japanese, i.e., co-worker, or a friend. If you are unable to read or and write Japanese, you may employ a professional translation agency or obtain assistance from friends, at your own choice.
- ☐ 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 acquired U.S. citizen family member(s) to change to married names, if desired. Please ask legal assistance office at 253-5591/5592.
- ☐ Tricare – Ask Branch Medical Clinic at 253-5571/5572.
- ☐ SOFA status request – if your acquired NON-SOFA U.S. citizen is under Japanese visa status and plans to remain in Japan after marriage, it can be changed to a dependent status under SOFA. If so, please come to the Legal Assistance Office before the visa expires.

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## INFORMATION SHEET

**Please fill out this sheet and call us at 253-5594 / 5591 / 5592 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 (U.S. citizen):**

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

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After you complete this sheet & required documents, please set up appointment at  
**253-5594 / 5591 / 5592 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.

\_\_\_\_\_