



TORII LEGAL ASSISTANCE

OFFICE OF THE STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE



HOW TO GET MARRIED ON OKINAWA

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The Torii Station Legal Assistance Office assists many clients with the marriage process on Okinawa. To marry on Okinawa, be sure to comply with the steps below.

Step One: Obtain an “**Affidavit for Competency to Marry.**” You must sign the affidavit in front of a notary and show the notary your U.S. passport, birth certificate, or naturalization certificate. The affidavit must be translated into Japanese. If the marriage involves only one U.S. Citizen, complete the Single Affidavit at: http://photos.state.gov/libraries/japan/39181/pdfs/wwwf7114_001.pdf. If both are U.S. Citizens, complete the Joint Affidavit at: <http://photos.state.gov/libraries/japan/39181/pdfs/wwwfjoint.pdf>.

Step Two: Complete a “**Kon-in Todoke**” (Notification of Marriage form). The Notification of Marriage forms are available at city hall. Two witnesses over the age of 20 are required. You must register your marriage at the city hall closest to you.

There is a fee of 1,400 Yen for the “Certificate of Acceptance of Notification of Marriage.” This certificate is legal evidence of a valid marriage and should be translated into English by an official translator.

Items to Bring to City Hall

- ❖ Affidavit of Competency to Marry (with Japanese translation).
- ❖ Notification of Marriage (Japanese form)
- ❖ Military or other DoD ID Card
- ❖ Passport (if none, U.S. birth certificate or U.S. naturalization certificate must be translated into Japanese)
- ❖ 1,400 Yen

Complete an immigrant visa application: Non-U.S. spouses and stepchildren may not enter the U.S. without an immigrant visa. If you marry a non-U.S. citizen, immediately complete Part 1 of the immigrant visa application.

Income tax returns: if you want to file a joint income tax return with your foreign national spouse, your spouse must apply for an Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN). This form (W-7) is filed at the same time you file your federal income tax return.