

## REHEARSAL INFORMATION SHEET

Scheduling a rehearsal can be a complicated process and therefore, I've written this Information Sheet to help make the process more understandable and, hopefully, less stressful for you! Please read this sheet carefully before you fill out the Rehearsal information on the Reservation Form.

***What is the purpose of a rehearsal?*** A rehearsal is basically designed to let you and your wedding party know where you will walk and stand during the ceremony. It's your chance to practice how you will all get to your places during the processional, as well as how you will all leave your places at the end of the ceremony, during the recessional. If your parents or other family members are participating in the processional they, too, can practice their parts at the rehearsal. Additionally, if there are readers, singers, parents lighting a Unity Candle, etc., these people can also practice taking their positions during a rehearsal. As you can see, the rehearsal is basically like "blocking" a play; the participants simply learn where they are supposed to go, and when. At no time during the rehearsal do we go through the actual words of the ceremony.

***Do you need a rehearsal?*** In my professional opinion, some weddings need rehearsals; others definitely do not. A general rule of thumb is, the bigger the wedding party, and the more participants there'll be in the actual ceremony, the more helpful a rehearsal can be. Handled correctly, rehearsals can be a very beneficial and enjoyable opportunity for you, your wedding party, and your families. They can also be an excellent way to defuse some of the pre-wedding jitters.

***Does your officiant need to attend the rehearsal?*** No! There's no requirement at all for an officiant to attend the rehearsal. However, *if* you so desire, and if my schedule allows for it, I'm more than happy to attend and direct your rehearsal. If you decide not to have a rehearsal, or if I'm not available for your rehearsal, I will happily provide you with the information you'll need to either conduct your own rehearsal, *or* to just informally let everyone know their places and roles.

***What is the fee for a rehearsal?*** Since rehearsals are entirely optional, and many couples are no longer choosing to have them, rehearsals are priced separately from the ceremony. Rehearsal fees depend on the day, time, and location of your rehearsal. There are 2 basic types of rehearsals, standard and "prime-time." 'Prime-time' rehearsals are those held at 5 p.m. or later on Thursday or Friday, or *anytime* on a week-end or holiday. All other days and times are considered standard. Due to my need to be available for other weddings, I don't generally schedule 'prime-time' rehearsals until a month or so before the wedding. If you can wait until then to schedule it, the standard rehearsal fee would apply. However, if you need to schedule a 'prime-time' rehearsal before then, you would need to pay the "prime-time" fee which is double that of the standard rehearsal fee.

***What if you don't have a confirmed time for your rehearsal yet?*** Relax! Often times, ceremony-site venues won't be able to give you a confirmed rehearsal time until a month or so before the wedding. They, like I, need to keep their availability open for other weddings. Don't be alarmed should this happen to you! If you don't have a confirmed rehearsal date/time from your ceremony-site venue when you book your wedding with me, that's fine. Just let me know as soon as you *are* given a confirmed rehearsal date and time, and I'll do my best to get your rehearsal on my calendar. Please note that I can only accept reservations for ***confirmed*** rehearsals. If you don't yet have a confirmed rehearsal, you'll need to leave the Rehearsal line on your Reservation Form blank for now.

If you wish to hire me as your officiant, keep this form for your file, and mail/deliver a completed Reservation Form to me, along with your deposit. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me. I'm here to help you in any way I can. Thanks so much!

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