

SECTION 14: TRIBUNAL

The following policies shall be followed in regard to the Metropolitan Tribunal.

14.1 FORMAL CASES

14.1.1 The Metropolitan Tribunal handles and processes marriage nullity cases, penal cases, and causes for the canonization of saints.

14.1.2 The Metropolitan Tribunal also offers canonical advice on other canonical issues regarding church law and administration.

14.2 LACK OF FORM CASES

14.2.1 The Metropolitan Tribunal also handles and processes lack of form cases. Lack of form cases are processed as part of the pre-nuptial investigation indicated in Canons 1066-1072. However, because of the many nuances in the law concerning the canonical form and the difficulty at times of determining whether a Catholic is bound to the form, the Archbishop has mandated the Tribunal to carry out this investigation.

14.2.2 In the following cases, there would be no lack of form; these cases would have to be remanded to the formal process for a declaration of marriage nullity:

- A marriage between a Catholic and a baptized Oriental Non-Catholic, which is blessed by a priest of the Oriental (Orthodox) Church. (Canon 1127, §1).
- A mixed marriage, when the Catholic party has been dispensed from the canonical form. (Canon 1127, §2).
- A marriage in which at least one of the parties was baptized in the Catholic or received into it without prejudice to the prescripts of canon 1127 §2. (Canon 1117).

14.3 FAVOR OF THE FAITH CASES

Metropolitan Tribunal also handles and processes cases involving favor of the faith, namely: Petrine Privilege and Pauline Privilege cases. For more information on these and the other kinds of cases, visit the Archdiocesan website or our webpage: <http://tribunal.arch-no.org>.

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