# SCHEDULE F <u>Civil Unions</u>

Today we are here to join you to share in the joy of this occasion, which should be one of the most memorable and happy days of your life.

On this day of your union, you stand somewhat apart from all other human beings. You stand within the charmed circle of your love; and this is as it should be. But love is not meant to be the possession of two people alone. Rather it would serve as a source of common energy, as a form in which you find the strength to live your lives with courage. From this day onward you must come closer together than ever before, you must love one another in sickness and in health, for better and for worse, but at the same time your love should give you the strength to stand apart, to seek out your unique destinies, to make your special contribution to the world which is always part of us and more than us.

Being assured that you are aware of the meaning of this ceremony, I will now ask you to repeat the vows.

#### **1. DOUBLE RING CEREMONY**

Do you, , take this woman/man/person , to be your lawful joined partner, to love, honor and cherish her/him through sickness and in health, through times of happiness and travail, until death do you part? (Place the ring upon her/his finger and repeat after me.) With this ring, I thee join, and forever pledge my devotion.

Do you, , take this woman/man/person, , to be your lawful joined partner, to love, honor and cherish her/him through sickness and in health, through periods of tranquility and travail, until death do you part? (Place the ring upon her/his finger and repeat after me.) With this ring, I thee join, and forever pledge my devotion.

### 2. SINGLE RING CEREMONY

Do you, , take this woman/man/person , to be your lawful joined partner, to love, honor and cherish her/him through sickness and in health, through times of happiness and travail, until death do you part? (Place the ring upon her/his finger and repeat after me.) With this ring, I thee join, and forever pledge my devotion.

Do you, , take this woman/man/person, , to be your lawful joined partner, to love, honor and cherish her/him through sickness and in health, through periods of tranquility and travail, until death do you part?

### **3. NO RING CEREMONY**

Do you, , take this woman/man/person, , to be your lawful joined partner, to love, honor and cherish her/him through sickness and in health, through times of happiness and travail, until death do you part?

Do you,	, take this woman/man/person,	, to be your
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lawful joined partner, to love, honor and cherish her/him through sickness and in health, through periods of tranquility and travail, until death do you part?

(The parties are now directed to join hands.)

Having joined hands, the person officiating will say:

"By the act of joining hands you take to yourself the relation of partners in life and solemnly promise to love, honor, comfort and cherish each other so long as you both shall live. Therefore, in accordance with the law of Connecticut and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the law of Connecticut I do pronounce you partners in life."

# **CLOSE OF CEREMONY**

"You came to me as two single people and you will now leave as a joined couple, united to each other by the binding contract you have just entered. Your cares, your worries, your pleasures and your joys you must share with each other. The best of good fortune to both of you."