



## CITY OF HARRISBURG

### Life Partnership Registry Information Sheet

- **What is the definition of a Life Partner?**

The City of Harrisburg's Ordinance 13-2008 defines a life partner as a person involved in a relationship with another person, which relationship meets the criteria of Section 4-201.3 of the Ordinance and is eligible to be duly registered in the City of Harrisburg's Life Partnership Registry.

- **What exactly are the requirements to register a Life Partnership under Section 4-201.3?**

Two declarants of life partnership must meet all of the following criteria:

- A.) Freely declare that they are solely and mutually committed to each other;
- B.) Both be at least 18 years old, unmarried according to Pennsylvania laws and neither can be registered in another Life Partnership relationship;
- C.) Are not related to the other Declarant by blood in any way which would prohibit marriage in Pennsylvania;
- D.) Be competent to contract;
- E.) Be directly dependent upon, or interdependent with each other, sharing common financial obligations. Such must be proven by acceptable documentation showing at least 3 of the following:
  - 1.) Common ownership of property or lease;
  - 2.) Common ownership of a vehicle;
  - 3.) Driving licenses listing common address;
  - 4.) Joint bank, investment or credit account;
  - 5.) Designation as a beneficiary of life insurance, retirement benefits, or under the Will of each other;
  - 6.) Assignment of each other as agent under a durable power of attorney or healthcare power of attorney;
- F.) Currently reside in the City of Harrisburg OR one of the Declarants works in the City;
- G.) Agree under penalty of law to notify the City of any change in the status of the Life Partnership; and
- H.) Execute a Declaration of Life Partnership, attesting to the foregoing, and to the fact that the parties are in a relationship of mutual commitment, support, caring; are responsible for each other's physical and financial welfare; and have the present intent to remain in that relationship.

- **Is a Life Partnership registration confidential?**

No. When a Declaration is filed with the City Clerk's Office it becomes a public record pursuant to Pennsylvania law.

- **How do you register as Life Partners?**

In order to register as Life Partners, you have to pick up a form at the City of Harrisburg's Office of the City Clerk in the Martin Luther King, Jr. City Government Center at 10 N. Second Street, Suite 1, Harrisburg, PA 17101 on a weekday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. You then need to fill out the form and have it notarized and then bring it back to the City Clerk's Office

with the documentation required in Section 4-203.1 (E.) listed above and the required registration fee.

- **What are you provided with to show that you are registered?**  
When you have met all the Ordinance's requirements and your registration is approved by the City Clerk, you will receive a Certificate of Life Partnership Registration and two wallet-sized cards which will contain your registry number.
- **What does it cost to register?**  
The registration fee is \$25.00.
- **What is the effect of registering?**  
Registration creates no legal rights between the Life Partners, other than the right to have the registered Life Partnership included in the City's Life Partnership Registry. However, registry does provide the following benefits:
  - 1.) When a Declarant is a patient in any health care facility operating in the City of Harrisburg, such facility shall allow the other Life Partner the same policies, rights, and privileges of visitation granted to a married spouse or parent. A dependent of a registered Life Partnership shall have the same visitation benefits as a patient's child.
  - 2.) When used in any residential lease, rental agreement or other contract for the possession or use of leased residential real estate located within the City of Harrisburg, the definition of the term "family" shall be interpreted to include a Life Partner as a family member.
  - 3.) An Employer within the City which allows an employee bereavement leave for the death of a spouse, child, or parent shall allow employees the same terms of leave for registered Life Partners and dependents of a registered Life Partnership. However, this does not apply to the County of Dauphin, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the United States but does apply to the City of Harrisburg and any of its authorities.
- **How do you terminate a Life Partnership?**  
Life Partnership ends for the purposes of registration on the Life Partnership Registry when:
  - 1.) Either of the Declarants dies; or
  - 2.) One or both of the Declarants executes and files a Notice of Termination form with the Office of the City Clerk attesting that one or more of the criteria in Section 4-210.3 (E.) no longer applies. There is no fee for filing the Termination.

## Life Partnership Registry Checklist

Registry No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Names:

\_\_\_\_\_

Have provided the following documentation of at least 3 of the following:

- 1.) Common ownership of property or lease;
- 2.) Common ownership of a vehicle;
- 3.) Driving licenses listing a common address;
- 4.) Joint bank, investment or credit account;
- 5.) Designation as a beneficiary of life insurance, retirement benefits, or under the will of each other;
- 6.) Assignment of each other as agent under a durable power of attorney or healthcare power of attorney.

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## CITY OF HARRISBURG Declaration of Life Partnership

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reg. No.: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned declare and certify that:

1. We are in a relationship of mutual support, caring and commitment and are responsible for each other's welfare and presently intend to remain in this relationship;
2. Neither of us is in a marriage recognized by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania nor in any life partnership and/or civil union with another person;
3. We are both 18 years of age or older;
4. We are not related by blood in any way that would prohibit marriage in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania;
5. We are mentally competent to consent to contract;
6. We are directly dependent on each other and share financial obligations, which include at least 3 of the following:
  - a. Common ownership of property or lease;
  - b. Common ownership of a vehicle;
  - c. Driving licenses listing a common address;
  - d. Joint bank, investment or credit account;
  - e. Designation as a beneficiary of life insurance, retirement benefits, or under the will of each other;
  - f. Assignment of each other as agent under a durable power of attorney or healthcare power of attorney.
7. We currently reside in the City of Harrisburg or one of us works in the City;
8. We agree to file a termination of partnership if there is a change in the status of our relationship such that we cease to meet the criteria for life partnership.

\_\_\_\_\_  
First                  M. I.                  Last

\_\_\_\_\_  
First                  M. I.                  Last

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature    Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature    Date



**CITY OF HARRISBURG**  
**Declaration of Life Partnership**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

COUNTY OF DAUPHIN

On this, the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, before me, a Notary Public, the undersigned officer, personally appeared, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, known to me or satisfactorily proven to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged that they executed the same for the purposes therein contained.

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED

BEFORE ME THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY

OF \_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: