

On November 14, 2023, the Ulster County Clerk's Office created a Registry for Domestic Partners and accepted for filing, Affidavits of Domestic Partnerships pursuant to Local Law 7-2023.

Both parties to the partnership must be present when the affidavit is submitted for filing. A domestic partnership may be registered by two people who meet all of the following conditions:

1. Either (a) both persons are residents of Ulster County, or (b) at least one partner is employed by the County of Ulster on the date of registration;
2. Both persons are eighteen (18) years of age or older and mentally competent to execute a contract;
3. Neither of the parties is legally married to a third party;
4. Neither of the persons is a party to another domestic partnership, or has been a party to another domestic partnership within the six (6) months immediately prior to registration;
5. The persons are not related to each other by blood in a manner that would bar their marriage in the State of New York;
6. The persons have a close and committed personal relationship, live together and have been living together on a continuous basis for at least one (1) year;
7. The persons return a completed domestic partners affidavit provided by the County Clerk, notarized and signed by both parties; and

The parties to the partnership must submit at least two (2) items of proof evidencing their financial interdependence from among the following list:

**JOINT BANK ACCOUNT**

- STATEMENT WITH BOTH NAMES
- CHECK WITH BOTH NAMES
- PASSBOOK WITH BOTH NAMES

**JOINT CREDIT CARD**

- STATEMENT WITH BOTH NAMES

**JOINT OBLIGORS ON LOAN**

- NOTE OR OTHER LOAN ORIGINATION DOCUMENT WITH BOTH NAMES

**JOINT TENANTS ON LEASE**

- LEASE WITH BOTH NAMES

**JOINT OWNERSHIP OF RESIDENCE**

- DEED OR OTHER SALE/TRANSFER DOCUMENT WITH BOTH NAMES
- PROPERTY TAX DOCUMENT WITH BOTH NAMES
- MORTGAGE AGREEMENT

**JOINT CUSTODY OF A CHILD**

**COMMON HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES**

- UTILITY/TELEPHONE BILL WITH BOTH NAMES
- PUBLIC ASSISTANCE DOCUMENT WITH BOTH NAMES

**JOINT VEHICLE OWNERSHIP**

- TITLE IN BOTH NAMES

**JOINT WILLS**

- COPY OF WILL OR WILLS, WITH EACH PARTY NAMING THE OTHER AS BENEFICIARY AND/OR EXECUTOR

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

- COPY OF POWERS OF ATTORNEY WITH EACH PARTY NAMING THE OTHER PARTY AND NO LIMITATIONS ON THE TERM OF THE DOCUMENTS

**HEALTH CARE PROXY**

- COPY OF HEALTH CARE PROXIES / LIVING WILLS, WITH EACH PARTY GIVING THE OTHER PARTY THE POWER TO MAKE HEALTH CARE / NON-RESUSCITATION DECISION UPON INCAPACITATION

**LIFE INSURANCE**

- COPY OF POLICY WITH ONE PARTY NAMING THE OTHER AS BENEFICIARY

**RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

- COPY OF BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION FORM WITH ONE PARTY DESIGNATING THE OTHER AS BENEFICIARY

**JOINT MEMBERSHIP**

- CHURCH
- FAMILY ORGANIZATION

**DAYCARE**

- JOINT RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILDCARE AS EVIDENCED BY SCHOOL DOCUMENTS OR GUARDIANSHIP

**TAX RETURNS****JOINT INVESTMENTS**

- INVESTMENT SECURITIES WITH BOTH NAMES
- MUTUAL FUND STATEMENTS WITH BOTH NAMES
- BROKERAGE ACCOUNT STATEMENTS WITH BOTH NAMES

**REGISTRATION**

- DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP FILED IN A DIFFERENT STATE OR MUNICIPALITY WHICH RECOGNIZES SUCH PARTNERSHIPS

**AFFIDAVIT**

- BY A CREDITOR OR OTHER PERSON ABLE TO TESTIFY TO PARTNER'S FINANCIAL INTERDEPENDENCE

**COUNTY CLERK**

- OTHER PROOF ESTABLISHING ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE, AS DETERMINED BY THE COUNTY CLERK

The application fee for the processing of the request for such a Certificate of Domestic Partnership Registration shall be thirty-five (\$35.00) dollars and must be paid before any such certificate may be issued.

The County Clerk shall issue a Certificate of Domestic Partnership Registration to persons who have registered pursuant to this law. Such a certificate shall constitute notice of a registered domestic partnership when persons apply for rights or benefits available to domestic partners.

If either party or both parties to a registered domestic partnership determines that the partnership has terminated, one of the partners shall file a termination statement with the County Clerk. The person filing the termination statement shall declare that the domestic partnership is terminated and, if the termination statement has not been signed by both domestic partners, that the other domestic partner has been notified of such termination by registered mail, return receipt requested. The fee for filing a termination is thirty-five (\$35.00) dollars.

A domestic partnership shall terminate whenever one of the parties to the partnership marries a third party or upon the death of one of the parties.

Any person who willfully makes a material misrepresentation under Section X of this law shall be guilty of a violation punishable by a fine not to exceed five hundred (\$500.00) dollars.