

SECTION II - ATTORNEY GENERAL ADVICE **Evidentiary Character of Vital Records**
Licensing **What document constitutes proof of birth, marriage or death?**

RULING: The Attorney General's Office refers this question to Title 22 Section 2707.

§2707. Evidentiary character of vital records

Any certificate or record of any live birth, marriage, death or fetal death filed under this Title, or a copy thereof duly certified by its official custodian, shall be prima facie evidence of the fact of such birth, marriage, death or fetal death, if not "amended" or "delayed." The probative value of "amended" or "delayed" records shall be determined by the judicial or administrative body or official before whom the certificate is offered in evidence.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 9/22/03

REVISION DATES:

HISTORY: Question to AAG McNiff of what evidence the Board should require in order to honor a request by a licensee to change their name due to marriage. On September 22, 2003, Ms. McNiff orally referenced Title 22, Section 2708. The required document is a Certified Abstract of a Certificate of Marriage which can be obtained (in Maine) from the Municipal Clerk in the city or town where the marriage license was obtained or from the Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research and Vital Statistics and from other states according to the laws of the state. Certificates of marriage issued by the person performing the ceremony do not constitute legal proof and are not acceptable.