

Family Division
Matrimonial Office
Royal Courts of Justice
Chichester Street
BELFAST
BT1 3JP
Telephone: 030 0200 7812

DECREE ABSOLUTE (Search Application)

If you require a copy of a Decree Absolute which was granted in Northern Ireland, you must provide the relevant case reference number.

If you do not have a case reference number, you are required to apply to the Matrimonial Office to have a search carried out to establish if a Decree Absolute has been granted and if so, to obtain the case reference number.

Attached to this information notice you will find an application form for a Decree Absolute Search. The application form must be completed and be returned with the search fee of £49.00. A search can only be conducted once this fee has been paid.

You should complete the attached form in full providing as much information as possible and post it along with the search fee to the address stated at the top of this notice. Any cheques/postal orders should be made payable to "Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service"

If the search is successful we will write to you to provide the case reference number and details of the Court which dealt with the matter. If the search is unsuccessful we will also confirm this in writing.

Alternatively, but only if the Decree Absolute was granted on or after 1 January 1996, you may use the online search facility on the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service website to conduct a search. The online search fee is £31.00. Information about all online services can be found at this link:

<https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/articles/online-services>

Once the reference number is known you may then request a copy of the Decree Absolute from the relevant Court enclosing the copy document fee which is currently £17.00.

***NB: IF THE DECREE ABSOLUTE ISSUED BETWEEN 1940 AND 1994 THE PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICE NI (PRONI) WILL HOLD THE FILE AND YOU MUST CONTACT PRONI DIRECTLY FOR A COPY**

Please note again you must provide the court reference number with your request.

THE SEARCH REQUEST FORM IS ATTACHED. PLEASE PROVIDE AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE TO ALLOW A FASTER RESPONSE.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF NORTHERN IRELAND
FAMILY DIVISION
MATRIMONIAL OFFICE

DECREE ABSOLUTE SEARCH APPLICATION

Your contact details:

Full Name _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

Contact details: Telephone _____

EMAIL _____

Details of divorce

Proceedings brought by (delete as appropriate): HUSBAND / WIFE

Divorce Proceedings in Northern Ireland: YES / NO

Which Court (delete as appropriate): HIGH COURT / COUNTY COURT

If County Court, which Division (delete as appropriate): ANTRIM / ARMAGH & SOUTH DOWN /
ARDS / BELFAST / CRAIGAVON / FERMANAGH & TYRONE / LONDONDERRY

Surname of Parties _____

Forename(s) of Husband _____

Forename(s) of Wife: _____

Date of marriage: _____

Year of divorce: _____

The search fee is £47.00. Cheques / postal orders to be made payable to the “Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service”.

NB - Fees for the copy Document will be payable at a later date.

For Office Use Only:

Date search done	Search result Reference	Search results letter sent