

Shorewood, MN Code of Ordinances

CHAPTER 110

DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP REGISTRY

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110.01 PURPOSE.

Subd. 1. The City of Shorewood authorizes and establishes a voluntary program for the registration of domestic partnerships. The domestic partnership registry is a means by which unmarried, committed couples who reside in Shorewood and who share a life and home together may document their relationship, thus enabling the registered couple access to employment benefits, hospital or health care visitation, and other such voluntary benefits.

Subd. 2. The adoption of this chapter does not amend, create, or establish rights, privileges, or responsibilities that are available to married couples under state or federal law.

(Ord. 486, passed 11-14-2011)

110.02 DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

DOMESTIC PARTNER. Any two adults meeting all of the following:

- a. Are not related by blood closer than permitted under marriage laws of the State of Minnesota.
- b. Are not married.
- c. Are competent to enter a contract.
- d. Are jointly responsible to each other for the necessities of life.

- e. Are committed to one another to the same extent as married persons are to each other.
- f. Do not have any other domestic partner(s).
- g. Are both at least 18 years of age.
- h. Reside in the City of Shorewood.

DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP. Includes, upon production of a valid government-issued documentation, the following:

- a. Any persons currently registered as domestic partners with a governmental body pursuant to state, local, or other law authorizing such registrations, or
- b. Marriages that would be legally recognized as a contract of lawful marriage in another local, state, or foreign jurisdiction, but for the operation of Minnesota law such as a same sex marriage in states that recognize and/or authorize them by law.

(Ord. 486, passed 11-14-2011)

110.03 REGISTRATION OF DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS.

Subd. 1. The City Clerk shall make available upon request, a city application for the registration of a domestic partnership.

Subd. 2. The City Clerk shall accept an application to register as domestic partners from persons who state in the application they meet the definition of domestic partner as set out in § 110.02, subd. 1.

Subd. 3. The City Clerk shall provide each domestic partner, following submission of the application and upon payment of all required fees, a registration certificate that may be used as evidence of the existence of a domestic partner relationship.

Subd. 4. The City Clerk shall keep a record of each domestic partner certification as well as amendments thereto and termination thereof. Records pertaining to the registration shall be maintained in accordance with the provisions of the Minnesota Government Data Practice Act. Such certificates may be used as evidence of the existence or termination of a domestic partnership.

(Ord. 486, passed 11-14-2011)

110.04 AMENDMENTS TO DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATION.

The City Clerk will accept amendments for filing from persons who have domestic partnership registrations on file with the city, except for amendments that change the identity of the partners, unless said amendment is accompanied by documentation from the district court approving a legal name change.

(Ord. 486, passed 11-14-2011)

110.05 TERMINATION OF DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP.

The domestic partnership registration shall terminate when the earlier of the following occurs:

Subd. 1. One of the partners dies; or

Subd. 2. Forty-five days after one partner: a) sends the other partner written notice, on a form provided by the city, that he or she is terminating the partnership; and b) files the notice of termination with an affidavit of service of the notice on the other person, with the City Clerk. The City Clerk shall send notice to the other partner that the partnership registry has been terminated.

(Ord. 486, passed 11-14-2011)

110.06 FEES.

The fee to apply, amend, terminate, or obtain certified copies of the registration are established in accordance with Chapter 1301 of the Shorewood City Code.

(Ord. 486, passed 11-14-2011)

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