

Date

Dear Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____,

We hope this letter finds you well. As you should already know, your former spouse _____ is in the process of submitting a petition for a declaration of nullity of the marriage between you and him/her. In December of 2015, Pope Francis made various reforms to this process. One such reform is what we call the “Collaborative Process.”

With all petitions, you as the former spouse (the respondent) have certain rights and are invited to participate in the process. Not all respondents choose to participate, but many do. Some, for various reasons (such as the respondent agrees with seeking the declaration of nullity, the respondent also is seeking to remarry in the church, etc.), are very willing to participate in the process – and this is where the collaborative process comes into play.

In the collaborative process we ask for your help by filling out some additional forms which are enclosed. If you agree to participate, please complete these forms and return them to **me**.

Your agreement to participate in the collaborative process does **not** add any financial obligations on your part in terms of the case fee, nor is your participation signifying to anyone that you condone any negative behavior or actions on the part of your former spouse. It also does not modify or limit in any way the rights you have as the respondent.

If you have any questions about the collaborative process or the marriage annulment process in general, please do not hesitate to contact me, or you can also contact the Office of the Tribunal at tribunal@archsa.org or 210-734-1661. You can also visit www.archsa.org/tribunal to find answers to commonly asked questions, such as what an annulment is, how it affects the children, civil effects, etc.

Respectfully,

[Submitting Minister’s name & contact info]