
Subject: ANNULMENT DECLARATION FAHED — Revised

From: Nuha Sayegh <chefnuha@gmail.com>

To: Eric Jones <eric@recovery-compass.org>

Date Sent: Sunday, November 2, 2025 9:01:04 PM GMT-08:00

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Attachments: ANNULMENT DECLARATION FAHED — Revised.docx

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6 IN PRO PER
7

8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
9
10 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

11 FAHED SAYEGH
12 Petitioner,

13 v.
14

15 NUHA SAYEGH,
16 Respondent.

17 CASE NO: 25PDRO01260
18 (r/w 25PDFL01441 (dissolution lead)
19 (r/w 25PDFL01460 (related dv matter)

20 **DECLARATION OF FAHED SAYEGH IN
21 SUPPORT OF ANNULMENT**

22 DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 2025
23 DEPT.: L
24 TIME : 8:30AM

25 I, Fahed (“Freddy”) Sayegh, declare:

26 1. Family Relationship

27 The petitioner, Nuha Sayegh, and I are blood relatives. Petitioner’s father is Fahed Sayegh, and
28 her mother’s maiden name is Margie Sayegh. My father is Ziad Sayegh, and my mother’s
maiden name was Frances Sayegh. All four parents are members of the Sayegh family. As a
result, the petitioner and I are first cousins through both our paternal and maternal lines, sharing
common grandparents on each side. Because of this overlapping degree of consanguinity, our
marriage falls within the degrees of relationship prohibited by California public policy and
should be declared void under Family Code §§ 2200–2201.

29 2. Arranged and Non-Consensual Marriage

30 Our families arranged the marriage according to cultural tradition. I did not freely consent to
31 marry, and the petitioner likewise entered the marriage under strong family and community

1 pressure. Although a ceremonial marriage was performed after she reached the age of eighteen,
2 the decision was not voluntary for either of us.

3 **2A. Joint Acknowledgment of Arrangement**

4 Both my mother and I acknowledge these facts and consider ourselves victims of the arranged
5 marriage. To my knowledge and belief, petitioner has also described the marriage as arranged
6 and not entered into as a result of mutual choice.
7

8
9 **2B. Cultural and Historical Context**

10 Both parties are first-generation Jordanian Americans whose parents were born into a small
11 Bedouin community in Jordan—a very small Jordanian Greek Orthodox population—with
12 limited infrastructure and strong endogamous customs. In that community, close-kin marriages
13 were historically common and sometimes expected. Our families carried these practices forward
14 after immigrating to the United States and imposed them on us. I offer this solely as context for
15 the arranged nature of our union and the lack of true, voluntary consent—not to criticize
16 anyone's faith or culture.
17

18 **2C. Petitioner's Own Admissions Regarding the Arranged Marriage**

19 Petitioner herself has repeatedly acknowledged, in writing and under oath, that our marriage was
20 arranged by her mother and that she regarded it as an arranged marriage rather than a voluntary
21 union. In her own declarations, including her filing for a Temporary Restraining Order, she stated
22 that her mother arranged the marriage and that she believed she was in an arranged marriage.
23 These admissions corroborate my position that neither party entered the marriage freely or with
24 genuine consent.
25

26 **2D. Petitioner's Written and Sworn Admissions (2025)**

27 In her Request for Temporary Restraining Order 2 (filed in 2025), petitioner expressly stated that
28 she was in an arranged marriage. In a letter to her parents dated September 8, 2025, she wrote in

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1 substance that “Margie forced her daughter into an arranged marriage at the age of 17,” and that
2 her mother was the primary architect of the forced marriage to Freddy, viewing it as a transaction
3 to solidify her [Margie’s] standing within the wealthier Sayegh lineage. In her sworn testimony
4 at the Domestic Violence Restraining Order hearing on October 15, 2025, petitioner again
5 affirmed that she had married Fahed (“Freddy”) Sayegh through an arranged marriage. These
6 consistent admissions, made in writing and under oath, confirm that petitioner herself has
7 characterized the marriage as arranged, coerced, and motivated by family interests rather than
8 mutual consent.

9 2E. Recorded Admission Regarding Family Orchestration and Lack of Consent (Party

10 Admissions; EC §1220 / Prior Inconsistent §1235; Foundation §§1400–1402).

11 Recorded Admission Regarding Family Orchestration and Lack of Consent (Party Admissions;
12 EC §1220 / Prior Inconsistent §1235; Foundation §§1400–1402). An audio recording exists of
13 Petitioner speaking with her father in which she describes the marriage as one set up by her
14 mother and maintained by family pressure to avoid “humiliation.” I personally recognize
15 Petitioner’s voice based on years of familiarity; I obtained and preserved the recording in its
16 original format; and a certified transcript with line numbers is attached as Exhibit G. In the
17 recording, Petitioner states, among other things, that “[t]he marriage that she’s set up with
18 Freddy… [t]his is her life dream… it doesn’t mean it’s my dream” (Ex. G, L9), and that “[i]t
19 doesn’t mean that’s my life. And I’m supposed to live it because she doesn’t want to be
20 humiliated” (Ex. G, L10). She further says “[i]t all comes down to Margie, not wanting to be
21 humiliated” (Ex. G, L8), and describes the timing—“the second she realized I was actually
22 serious about leaving this marriage” (Ex. G, L6). These statements are party admissions offered
23 to show that the union was arranged and coerced by family members and not the product of
24 Petitioner’s free, voluntary consent.

25
26 **Foundation.** I can authenticate the recording and transcript: I recognize Petitioner’s voice; the
27 file was preserved without alteration; the transcript is a true and correct transcription of the

1 audio; and the excerpts below accurately reflect Petitioner's words (EC §§1400–1402). Petitioner
2 will have the opportunity to explain or deny these statements if she chooses to testify (EC §770).

3

4 **2F. Verbatim Excerpts From Petitioner's Call With Her Father (Exhibit G).**

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- 10
- L9: "The marriage that she's set up with Fredy... This is her life dream... it doesn't mean
it's my dream."
 - L10: "It doesn't mean that's my life. And I'm supposed to live it because she doesn't
want to be humiliated."
 - L8: "And it all comes down to Margie, not wanting to be humiliated..."
 - L6: "...the second she realized I was actually serious about leaving this marriage..."

11

12 **Relevance.** These admissions go directly to **Family Code §2210(e)** (lack of consent by
13 force/duress/undue influence) and corroborate the arranged, non-voluntary nature of the union
14 described elsewhere in this declaration and in Petitioner's own filings.

15

16 **3. Lack of a Genuine Marital Relationship**

17 We never lived together as husband and wife. We have always maintained separate bedrooms
18 and never shared a marital bed. We never once had a joint bank account or joint credit card, did
19 not commingle finances, did not hold ourselves out socially as a couple, did not travel together as
spouses, and did not create joint property. I did not view Petitioner as my spouse or partner;
consistent with the family arrangement, I treated her as a dependent family member. There was
no romantic relationship between us, and, to my understanding, Petitioner likewise did not
consider me her husband.

24 **3A. Separate Lives; Petitioner's Long-Term Relationships**

25 Throughout the marriage, petitioner and I led separate lives; she maintained her own household
26 rhythm with the children, and I maintained mine with the children in my care. Consistent with
27 her position that we were not spouses in a true sense, petitioner maintained long-term

1 relationships with other individuals. My understanding is that she did not view those
2 relationships as “affairs” because she did not recognize me as her husband. I raise these facts
3 solely to show there was never a genuine marital union or mutual recognition of a spousal
4 relationship.

5 **3B. Absence of Mutual Intent to Marry**

6 From the outset, there was no mutual intent to create a true marital partnership. I did not consent
7 to a romantic or spousal relationship, and my understanding is that Petitioner likewise did not
8 view our relationship as a marriage in any meaningful sense. Our interactions reflected familial
9 obligation rather than a voluntary marital union.

10 **3C. Ownership of Premarital Property**

11 I purchased and owned my home approximately twelve years before I ever met the petitioner.
12 Because our marriage was arranged and never functioned as a true marital partnership, I did not
13 view her as my spouse or financial partner and therefore never placed her name on title to my
14 home. The property has always been my separate asset, acquired well before the marriage and
15 maintained solely by me. This decision was consistent with my understanding that our
16 relationship was not a genuine marriage but an arrangement imposed by our families.
17

18 **4. Timing of the Relationship**

19 I met the petitioner when she was seventeen years old. At our families’ insistence, the ceremony
20 was delayed until after she turned eighteen, but the arrangement remained the product of family
21 coercion rather than our own free choice.

22 **4A. Cultural “Dulba” Marriage at Age Seventeen**

23 When petitioner was seventeen years old, our families conducted a traditional cultural marriage
24 ceremony known as the “Dulba.” In our Jordanian community, the Dulba represents a culturally
25 binding marriage and formal commitment between families. At that time, petitioner was a minor
26 under her parents’ authority, and I participated to honor family expectations. We postponed the —
27 —
28

1 civil registration until after her eighteenth birthday so the union would be legally recognized in
2 California, and we later held an American-style reception. The legal ceremony was therefore a
3 continuation of the same family-arranged Dulba agreement, not a new or voluntary act of
4 consent by either party.

5 5. Consequences of Consanguinity

6 Because of our close biological relationship, the marriage created serious emotional and medical
7 hardship. One pregnancy presented genetic complications and could not be carried to term,
8 underscoring the risks inherent in our shared lineage.
9

10 6. Medical Confirmation of Genetic Relationship

11 In 2022 I was diagnosed with a gastrointestinal stromal tumor (GIST). During evaluation, my
12 treating genetic specialists recommended genetic testing of our children after detecting an
13 unusually high degree of shared genetic material between me and Nuha. The results confirmed
14 excessive genetic similarity on both maternal and paternal lines, causing a significant medical
15 and genetic concern. This medical confirmation reinforced that our families are biologically
16 intertwined beyond a normal first-cousin relationship and that the marriage should not have
17 occurred under California public-policy standards.
18

19 7. Legal Basis for Nullity

20 For these reasons—(a) consanguinity within prohibited or repugnant degrees under Family Code
21 §§ 2200–2201 and controlling public-policy principles, and (b) lack of free consent under Family
22 Code § 2210(e)—I respectfully request that the Court declare the marriage void ab initio and
23 enter a Judgment of Nullity of Marriage.
24

25
26 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is
27 true and correct.
28

1 Executed on _____, 20, at _____, California.
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3
4

5 Fahed (“Freddy”) Sayegh, Declarant
6

7 **Attachments**
8

- 9 • Exhibit A: Family-Relationship Chart (one page).
- 10 • Exhibit B: Petitioner’s prior written statements acknowledging the arranged nature of the
11 marriage / lack of spousal relationship (texts, emails, or declarations).
- 12 • Exhibit C: Proof of separate bedrooms or households (leases, utility records, photos, or
13 school documents showing separate caregiving).
- 14 • Exhibit D: Redacted letter from genetic specialist confirming unusually high shared
15 genetic material (no sensitive medical data).
- 16 • Exhibit E: Excerpts from Petitioner’s TRO admitting she was in an arranged marriage.
- 17 • Exhibit F: Petitioner’s September 8, 2025 letter to her parents; and DVRO testimony
18 transcript excerpts from October 15, 2025.
- 19 • Exhibit G: Audio file and certified line-numbered transcript of Petitioner’s call with her
20 father, with the four highlighted excerpts (L6, L8, L9, L10) flagged for ease of reference.

21

22
23 **Recorded Admission and Authentication (Evid. Code §§ 1220, 1235, 1400–
24 1402).**

25 I possess an audio file of Respondent, Nuha Sayegh, speaking with her father. I recognize her
26 voice from years of familiarity. I preserved the file in its original format. A certified, line-
27 numbered transcript is attached as Exhibit G. In the recording, Respondent describes the
28 marriage as orchestrated by her mother and maintained to avoid “humiliation,” and states the

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1 union was her mother's "life dream," not hers. These statements are party admissions that
2 corroborate the arranged, non-voluntary nature of our marriage and support nullity under Family
3 Code § 2210(e) (lack of free consent/undue influence) and public-policy principles.

4

Key Excerpts from Exhibit G (Party Admissions)

5 "...the second she realized I was actually serious about leaving this marriage."

6 "And it all comes down to Margie, not wanting to be humiliated..."

7 "The marriage that she's set up with Freddy... This is her life dream... it doesn't mean it's
8 my dream."

9 "It doesn't mean that's my life. And I'm supposed to live it because she doesn't want to be
10 humiliated."

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