

FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF LONDON IN A LIVERY COMPANY

BY RIGHT OF PATRIMONY

When you have been admitted to the freedom of a livery company by right of patrimony you may obtain the Freedom of the City of London, which is a requirement before you can proceed to the livery.

You are eligible for the Freedom of the City of London by right of Patrimony if your mother/father (natural or legally adopted) was free of the City and of the Livery Company before you were born. You must also be above the age of eighteen years, never having been adjudged bankrupt and never having been convicted of a criminal offence. Applicants need not disclose convictions which are spent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

ONE personal visit to the office of the Chamberlain's Court, Guildhall (north wing) is required. Freedom admissions cannot be made by post or by proxy. By appointment only, telephone 020- 7332 1008/3055. Ask for an appointment to be admitted to the freedom by patrimony in a livery company,

Documents required:

Certified translations required of documents other than in the English language)

- Father's/mother's copy of freedom (freedom of the City of London certificate).
- Proof of Livery Company freedom (certificate or photocopy)
- Full birth/adoption certificate which shows parents' names and exact place of birth. Please note that patrimonial applicants with only short birth/adoption certificates will not be admitted to the Freedom.
- A woman using a married surname should bring her marriage or divorce certificate.
- Candidates using names other than those registered on birth/adoption/marriage certificates should bring an official document showing changes, eg change of name deed, passport, driving licence.

The fee is £100 card, cash or cheque made payable to 'The Chamberlain of London'. There is no fee if your name is on the Ward List (City of London electoral roll.)

All documents are returned immediately with the exception of your Livery Company certificate or photocopy which will be retained permanently by the Chamberlain's Court.

Should you have any queries concerning Freedom of the City of London procedure you may telephone the Clerk of the Chamberlain's Court, 020 7332 1008/3055.

Freedom of the City of London by right of Patrimony continued

When the Clerk of the Court has taken details of your application, and providing you have produced correct documentation, you may be admitted to the freedom of the City immediately.

Each admission is carried out individually in the Chamberlain's Court Room between the hours of 10.00am-3.30pm, Monday-Friday. You will be asked by the Chamberlain or the Clerk of the Court to read aloud the declaration of a freeman and to sign the declaration book, whereupon your copy of freedom will be presented. No special dress is required, however you are expected to be smartly dressed, no jeans or trainers. Gentlemen are expected to wear a jacket and tie. Friends and family are most welcome to attend.

THE DECLARATION OF A FREEMAN

I [names in full] do solemnly declare that I will be good and true to our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth the Second; that I will be obedient to the Mayor of this City; that I will maintain the Franchises and Customs thereof, and will keep this City harmless, in that which in me is; that I will also keep the Queen's Peace in my own person; that I will know no Gatherings nor Conspiracies made against the Queen's Peace, but I will warn the Mayor thereof, or hinder it to my power; and that all these points and articles I will well and truly keep, according to the laws and customs of this City, to my power.

Non-British/British Commonwealth candidates may substitute 'our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth the Second for 'Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second'

Chamberlain's Court
Guildhall
London EC2P 2EJ
2013