

**MISS AMERICA ORGANIZATION PANELIST AFFIDAVIT
STATE & LOCAL COMPETITIONS**

Name: _____ Street Address: _____

Occupation: _____ Title/Position: _____ Company: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

1. I have received, read, and understand the Rules for Panelists and confirm I meet the eligibility requirements to participate as a panelist in the local and/or state program.

2. I agree to serve as an unpaid, volunteer Panelist for the entire _____
Competition scheduled on _____ in _____, _____ (State or Local).
(Date) (City) (State)

3. I affirm that I, my company/business, spouse, domestic partner, significant other, or immediate family member, have not and will not provide for profit or otherwise (compensated or uncompensated) any product or service directly or indirectly to any potential or actual candidate in any Miss America or MAOTeen competitions other than in the normal routine duties as an official of the competition organization. Immediate family member is defined as parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, siblings, aunt, uncle, great aunt, great uncle, niece, and nephew, whether by whole or half blood, by marriage including step-children, adoption, or natural relation.

3a. I also affirm that I, my company/business, spouse, domestic partner, significant other, or immediate family member, do not act as a competition or pageant coach, competition or candidate vocal coach, hairdresser, retailer, make-up artist, fitness trainer, wardrobe specialist, interview coach, choreographer, or any other profession that works directly with candidates either compensated or uncompensated. I understand that this also means that a person, including my relationships stated above, who works with any candidate may not serve to select any other candidate, not just the ones with whom they work.

4. I also attest that, including this competition, I have not served as a panelist for more than four (4) Local Competitions and no more than two (2) State Competitions this year. (Double or Dual Competitions count as two competitions in the same year. Holdovers count for the next competition year.)

5. I acknowledge I was provided and understand the selection criteria and methods of scoring for the competition. I will, to the best of my ability, objectively apply the criteria. In performing my duties as a panelist, I will not permit geography, race, religion, age, political view, type of talent, or choice of social impact initiative of a candidate to interfere with my objective application of the selection and scoring criteria.

6. I understand I have been/will be provided with information about each participant in the competition that I will score. I will review the information and disclose any Conflicts of Interest, actual or perceived, which may not permit me to objectively serve as a panelist towards any of the participants.

7. "Conflicts of Interest" for this purpose includes: any facts or circumstances which would, from the common sense standpoint of a member of the general public, be perceived as compromising the ability of a panelist to objectively perform their duties; and specifically, any relationship or interest of a panelist, the employer, the business, or the family of a panelist, with a participant in the competition, the family of a participant, or the local or state organization from which the participant in the competition has been part.

8. I have not served as a panelist for any of the candidates competing at State Competition in any other competition, including the Miss America and MAOTeen Programs or any other program or system for at least the minimum of a four (4) year period.

8a. I understand at the local competition level ONLY may I review a candidate whom I may have previously served as a panelist within the four (4) year period. I will disclose the candidates whom I knowingly reviewed previously on paragraph seventeen (17) of this Affidavit and promise to review this local competition and all candidates with absolute objectivity and without bias.

9. I will perform my duties in a dignified and professional manner which is appropriate and sensitive to the feelings and impressions of the young women who are participating, and I will maintain an environment to the end that every candidate receives a fair, objective, and unbiased opportunity to compete.

**MISS AMERICA ORGANIZATION PANELIST AFFIDAVIT
STATE & LOCAL COMPETITIONS**

Section Two Continued

10. I will maintain the confidentiality of the information entrusted or known by me by virtue of my position as a panelist regardless of the source of the information (i.e., candidates, competition personnel, or any other person). I will not allow, under any circumstances, any person to exert or try to exert any influence upon me in my capacity as a panelist. If anyone should attempt to influence me then, as part of my fiduciary responsibility, I agree to immediately disclose such attempted influence to the State Executive Director and the Miss America Organization's Field Operations Office (609-344-1808) as soon as it is practical.

11. In maintaining the confidentiality of the information known by me by virtue of my position as a panelist, I agree not to discuss anything that transpired during the competition process with anyone during or after the competition concludes. I will decline all requests from candidates, parents, pageant coaches, or anyone else for advice on how to improve, as the entire process is, and remains, confidential. I also agree that all candidate paperwork in my possession will be disposed in a manner that will protect the confidentiality of the competition process and the candidates' privacy.

12. I understand if I am a former candidate or family member of a former candidate, whether from a local, state, or national Miss America Competition, or a competition similar in nature to the Miss America Competition, and regardless if I/they won one of said competitions, I cannot serve as a panelist until a minimum of one (1) year after I/they have stopped competing and may never serve on a panel for any candidate with whom I/they have competed, are friends, have a relationship, etc. "Stopped Competing" is defined as either "ages out," gets married, wins a state title, or otherwise can no longer compete in the Miss America Program. I understand the one (1) year period begins when my title was awarded to the highest level successor.

13. I also agree to not engage candidates outside of the normal panelist duties before, during, or after the competition, especially in any form of social media. I understand I have a fiduciary responsibility to notify the director of the competition/organization if I am contacted by a candidate, a candidate's parent/relative, or a pageant coach. I also agree to not engage my fellow panelists before, during, or after the competition in relation to candidates and the competition process.

14. I understand the use of a pageant coach may transpire, if the State and/or Local Executive Director agrees to such arrangement with their State or Local Representative, to prepare her for the next level of competition. Whether approved to work with a candidate or not, pageant coaches and their immediate family members are not to be granted access to state or local candidates or panelists.

15. (If applicable) In the interests of maintaining the actual and perceived objective integrity of the competition and scoring system, listed below (or attached) are, to the best of my knowledge, any facts of circumstances which may constitute a Conflict of Interest or may be perceived as a Conflict of Interest. I request a prompt review of these disclosures to advise me if they may be perceived as Conflicts of Interest.

16. I understand anyone who engages or has engaged in conduct, in the sole or exclusive judgment of MAO, which adversely reflects and considered harmful to the reputation of MAO and MAOTeen, including the uttering or publishing of any disparaging comments regarding MAO, affiliates, or participants in the *Miss America and Miss America's Outstanding Teen Programs*; and/or failed/fails to present communications to members of the public in a professional manner to maintain and enhance the Miss America Program's broad public acceptance and in order to prevent damage to MAO's business or reputation are barred from serving as a panelist.

17. Disclosure(s): _____

If I am found to be in violation of any portion of this Affidavit, I understand and agree that I will be prohibited from serving as a panelist at any level of the Miss America program which includes Miss America's Outstanding Teen.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____