

JUAN DE PADILLA REGION
SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

**Preparation for Profession
Interview and Assessment**

Instructions:

1. *Set a time with the candidate at least a month prior to the profession date for an interview to certify the candidate's readiness to make the SFO their way of life.*
2. *Give each Candidate a copy of the form **Preparation for Profession: Candidate's Statement**. Instruct the candidate to complete this form and bring it to the interview. The Spiritual Assistant and the Formation Director interview each candidate individually so that they may validate their conclusions about the readiness of each candidate for profession.*
3. *The Spiritual Assistant and the Formation Director may use questions from **Interview Prior To Profession**.*
 - a. *IT IS ALSO HELPFUL FOR THEM TO REVIEW GUIDELINES FOR INITIAL FORMATION IN THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER IN THE UNITED STATES.*
4. *After their interviews are completed, they discuss their findings and fill out the form **Interview Prior to Profession**.*
5. *At the Council Meeting prior to the profession, the Spiritual Assistant and the Formation Director share the completed forms and information with the Council. The Fraternity Council members consider the candidate's statements, responses to the interview questionnaire and the assessments of the Formation Director and Spiritual Assistant and ask for explanations and/or clarification as necessary to evaluate the candidate's readiness for profession.*
6. *After due and prayerful consideration, the council votes, **by secret ballot***, on the candidate's readiness for profession. The vote may be:*
 - YES** - Candidate is ready for profession.*
 - NO** - Candidate is not ready for profession.*
 - NEEDS MORE TIME** - Candidate needs more time for discernment of their vocation.*
7. *The Fraternity Council notifies the candidate and the Fraternity of its decision.*

* See:

THE RULE OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER, Rule #23 and CONSTITUTION OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER, Article 41.

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**Preparation for Profession
Candidate's Statement**

Dear Candidate: _____

Please state why you desire to become a professed member of the Secular Franciscan Order, and what you want to do with your life as a Secular Franciscan.

Please continue on the back as needed

(Signature)

(Date)

Please make 2 copies of your completed statement (in addition to the original), one for the FD and one for the SA

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**Preparation for Profession
Interview Questionnaire**

1. Do you fully understand and are you deeply aware that by making your profession in the Secular Franciscan Order you will be making a lifelong commitment?
2. Do your present circumstances allow you to freely commit yourself to the Secular Franciscan Order and this fraternity (to live the Gospel life and fulfill your obligations to attend meetings and participate in fraternity activities and projects as you are able)?
3. How would being a member of the Secular Franciscan Order affect your everyday living?
4. Do you have any particular gifts (talents, skills, spiritual insights, etc.) you can share with this fraternity?
5. Are you willing to take on responsibilities in the fraternity when needed, according to your abilities?
6. What can you bring to the Secular Franciscan Order and this fraternity?
7. What can the Secular Franciscan Order and this fraternity can give you?
8. What areas of spiritual growth will you be better able to pursue as a member of the Secular Franciscan Order and this fraternity?
9. Please explain your view of Franciscan life.
10. Do you have any questions about the Secular Franciscan Order or this fraternity that you would like to bring up?

****Suggested questions. Fraternity may use all or as many of these questions as they choose or create their own list of questions. However, the answers to questions # 1 & 2, are essential for evaluating candidate's preparedness for profession.***

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Profession Interview Assessment

FRATERNITY _____

TO THE COUNCIL:

_____ has completed his/her formation program and was
(Candidate's Name)

formally interviewed on _____
(Date Interviewed)

I feel this candidate:

(Formation Director) (Date)

TO THE COUNCIL:

_____ has completed his/her formation program and was
(Candidate's Name)

formally interviewed on _____
(Date Interviewed)

I feel this candidate:

(Spiritual Assistant/Animator) (Date)

COUNCIL APPROVAL

(Date of Approval) (Signature Fraternity Minister)