

5270/2026 (A' 9) "Provisions concerning public sector human resources, Civil Society Organizations, the strengthening of Local Government, the National Register of Companion Animals, and other provisions"

Article 38

**Addition of the ordination or tonsure name of clergy and monks in civil registry records-
Amendment of paragraph 1 of article 14 of Law 344/1976**

In paragraph 1 of article 14 of Law 344/1976 (A' 143), concerning changes to civil registry records, two new subparagraphs, fourth and fifth, are added and, following legislative improvements, paragraph 1 is amended as follows:

"1. Changes affecting the civil status of a natural person after the drafting of civil registry records due to legitimation, recognition, disownment, contestation, challenge of paternity, child adoption and its dissolution, dissolution or annulment of marriage, dissolution of a civil partnership, addition or change of name, surname, nationality, religion, or gender correction, shall be recorded in the field of the information system of article 8A marked 'Changes', within one (1) month from their occurrence, upon submission of the relevant administrative act or a certificate confirming the irrevocability of the relevant court decision. Specifically, in the case of gender correction, the court decision need only to be final.

In particular, certificates of irrevocable dissolution or annulment of marriage, in order to be used before any public or municipal authority, must bear a notation from the competent registrar that a copy has been submitted to them and that the relevant change has been recorded in the information system of article 8A, and, for marriages prior to the entry into force of this law, that the relevant change has also been recorded in the margin of the civil registry marriage record.

Specifically for clergy of all ranks and monks who are members of the clergy or are registered in the monastic registers of Holy Monasteries and Hermitages, respectively, of the Church of Greece, the Church of Crete, the Holy Metropolises of the Dodecanese, the Patriarchal Exarchate of Patmos, Mount Athos, the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Orthodox Patriarchates, Orthodox Holy Archdioceses and Orthodox Churches that are doctrinally united with the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the ordination name of clergy or the monastic tonsure name of monks shall be entered as an addition to the information system of article 8A within one (1) month from the submission of a relevant application by the interested parties, together with a certificate from their competent ecclesiastical authority (Patriarchate, Holy Synod, Holy Archdiocese or Holy Metropolis, as the case may be) regarding the name given at their ordination or monastic tonsure. In the event of loss of the status of monk or cleric, the competent ecclesiastical authority referred to in the fourth subparagraph or the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs of the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports shall promptly inform the relevant municipality so that the change may be made."