

# The Lovings' Marriage License Is Now On Display At D.C. Court

BY [RACHEL KURZIUS](#) IN [ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT](#) ON AUG 31, 2016 9:44 AM

276  
No. **420276**

**Application for License**

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ss:

I, Richard Perry Loving  
applicant for the issuance of a Marriage License to the persons named herein, do solemnly swear (affirm) that the answers to the following interrogatories are true, to the best of my knowledge and belief: So Help Me God.

	MALE	FEMALE
Name	<u>Richard Perry Loving</u>	<u>Mildred Delores Jeter</u>
Age	<u>24</u> years	<u>18 July 22, 1937</u> years
Color	<u>White</u>	<u>Indian</u>
Relationship	<u>None</u>	
Former marriages	<u>None</u>	<u>None</u>
Residence	<u>Passing, Va.</u>	<u>Passing, Va.</u>

WITNESS:

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of May, 1958

Officiating Clergyman: HARRY M. HULL, Clerk  
By Handwritten Signature Deputy Clerk.

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Photo courtesy of [D.C. Courts](#).

D.C. Superior Court—not usually a stop for tourists looking for the kinds of historic documents found in the Smithsonian museums. Now, though, the court's marriage bureau is displaying a collection of seven notable marriage applications, according to a D.C. Courts [Facebook post](#).

The most significant is that of [Richard Loving and Mildred Jeter](#), an interracial couple from Virginia who married in D.C. because anti-miscegenation laws made their union illegal in their home state. They were arrested and charged with violating the Racial Integrity Act when they returned to Virginia.

They challenged their conviction, which made it to the Supreme Court in 1967. In *Loving v Virginia*, the court [unanimously ruled](#) that laws prohibiting interracial marriages were unconstitutional, striking down bans throughout the country. Justice Anthony Kennedy cited the ruling in the [2015 decision](#) to make same-sex marriage legal throughout the country. The forthcoming movie [Loving](#) dramatizes their story.

History buffs might also enjoy seeing the marriage license of U.S. President Grover Cleveland, who entered his first term as a bachelor and became the [first president](#) to wed in the White House. The display also includes licenses from two former D.C. mayors and two presidents' daughters.

You can see the display at the Moultrie Courthouse's Marriage Bureau, located at 500 Indiana Avenue, NW, Room JM-590