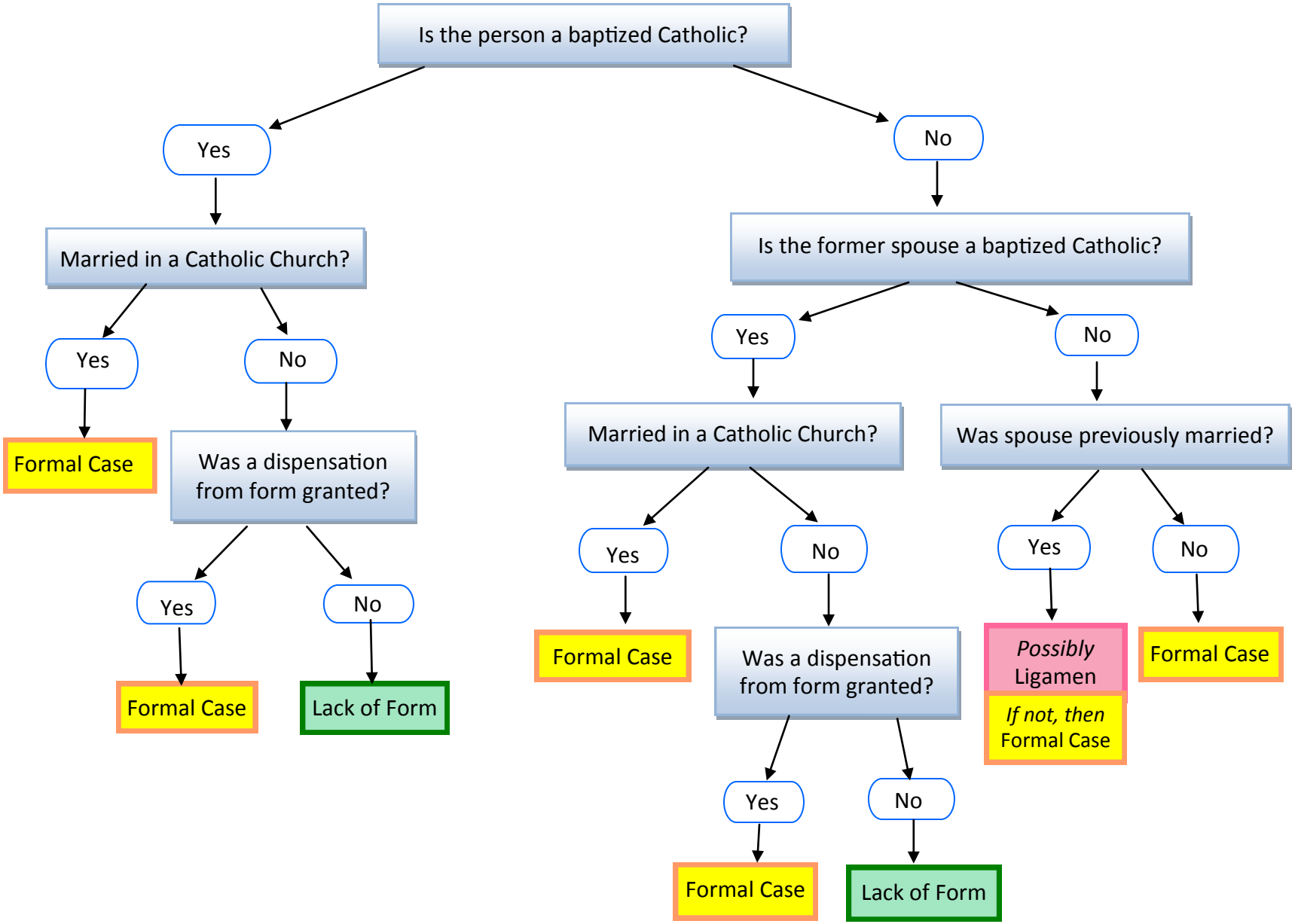DETERMINING THE TYPE OF CASE