

Love AND Pride



Lambda Legal =



An Expression of Love, Peace and Hope

1138. It's not a secret code. It's not the address of the newest hotspot. It's one number, but it adds up.

At last count, the United States General Accounting Office reported 1,138 federal rights, protections and benefits that come with marriage. That means heterosexual married couples automatically receive these rights and protections, while same-sex couples — even those in civil unions, domestic partnerships and marriages — do not.

Many of these benefits, such as tax credits, are well known and may even factor into a heterosexual couple's decision to marry. Others can be taken for granted but have a great impact on the lives of committed same-sex partners. Some of these benefits, protections, and rights include the right to petition for a partner's immigration, the use of The Family and Medical Leave Act — which allows up to 12 weeks unpaid leave to care for sick partners — and social security benefits for surviving partners and their dependents.

These are just a few of the provisions and protections provided exclusively for heterosexual married couples. Lambda Legal remains in the forefront of the battle for marriage equality, pushing to end discrimination in civil marriage.

We are proud to announce our partnership with Love and Pride on two new jewelry collections designed to support marriage equality: the 1138 Collection and the Love, Peace and Hope Bridal Jewelry Collection. Loveandpride.com is the premier online jewelry destination for people who believe in diversity, equality and tolerance.

The 1138 Collection of necklaces, bracelets and earrings features the number 1138 in every design and is designed to get people talking about the issue of marriage equality. The Love, Peace and Hope Collection offers engagement, wedding and anniversary rings that pair original and classic designs to a contemporary message of marriage equality for same-sex couples. Love, Peace and Hope rings are also available featuring a trillion diamond located on the inside of the setting — creating a private message of support for a very public issue, and backing it up with a generous donation. Ten percent of every purchase from these collections, available at loveandpride.com and lovepeaceandhope.com, is donated to Lambda Legal.

Udi Behr, designer at Love and Pride, says, "When you tell someone there are more than a thousand rights married couples receive that same-sex couples don't, it creates the kind of 'a-ha' moment that can change hearts and minds."

To launch the campaign with a public "a-ha" moment, Love and Pride distributed 1,138 roses in Union Square on October 10, 2007, at 11:38 a.m. Attached to each flower was a card listing one of the 1,138 rights.

"Same-sex couples in this country should have the same choices — and the same rights — as other couples," says Kevin Cathcart, executive director of Lambda Legal. "1138 reminds us of how much is at stake and why marriage is worth fighting for."

It is too soon to say *everything* is coming up roses, but in recent years we have made enormous strides for LGBT communities. Each rose and each piece of jewelry sold can help start a conversation — a conversation about the many rights still denied to LGBT communities — pushing us further along the road to equality. **L**

LAMBDA LEGAL: EVENTS CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- 10.13.07 Lambda Legal in Atlanta:
Celebrating 10 Years in the South
- 10.21.07 Orange County House Party – Irvine, CA
- 10.25.07 Lambda Legal in Miami – Miami, FL

NOVEMBER

- 11.17.07 Lambda Legal Liberty Circle
Black Tie Dinner – Dallas, TX

FEBRUARY

- 2.2.08 Lambda Legal in Palm Beach –
Palm Beach, FL

MARCH

- 3.8.08 Lambda Legal in Ft. Lauderdale –
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

SAVE THE DATE:

5.5.08 Liberty Awards National Dinner – New York City

For more information or to purchase tickets for any of these events, please visit www.lambdalegal.org/events or contact National Events Director Adam Pedersen-Doherty at events@lambdalegal.org.