ON THE DOCKET // IN THE FIELD

HIGHLIGHTS OF LAMBDA LEGAL'S RECENT WORK AROUND THE COUNTRY



Save Date



- 1 Lambda Legal in D.C. Long View Gallery, Washington, DC
- **2 Life Planning Seminar** Hyatt Regency Jersey City on the Hudson, *Hackensack*, *NJ*
- 3 Membership Party GYM Bar, New York City
- 5 Brownsville Event Chicago
- 7 Seattle Women's Reception
- $\textbf{8 Monthly Mix and Mingle} \ \mathsf{DISH} \ \mathsf{Restaurant} \ \mathsf{and} \ \mathsf{Lounge}, \ \mathsf{\textit{Dallas}}$
- 16 Major Donor Reception Indianapolis
- 18 Women's Wine Down Los Angeles
- 23 Ladies on the Lake Chicago
- 23 Summer Associate Event Los Angeles
- 24 8th Annual Lawrence Celebration The Plaza Club, Houston
- 27 National HIV Testing Day

JULY

- **9 Pines Brunch** Fire Island Pines, NY
- 10 Orange County Brunch Santa Ana, CA
- 13 Monthly Mix and Mingle DISH Restaurant and Lounge, Dallas
- **16 Lambda Legal in the Hamptons** The Madoo Conservancy, *Sagaponack, NY*

AUGUST

- 4 Seattle Garden Party
- 5 Membership Party GYM Bar, New York City
- 10 Monthly Mix and Mingle DISH Restaurant and Lounge, Dallas
- 13 Landmark Dinner W Hotel, Dallas
- 27 Into the Woods Lakeside, MI

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Membership Party GYM Bar, New York City
- 4-10 National Suicide Prevention Week
- 14 Monthly Mix and Mingle DISH Restaurant and Lounge, Dallas
- 14 Atlanta Garden Party Atlanta Botanical Garden
- **16 Indiana Benefit Dinner** Indianapolis Marriott Downtown, *Indianapolis*
- **30 Lambda Legal in Miami** Apogee, *Miami Beach, FL*

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON LAMBDA LEGAL EVENTS, VISIT www.lambdalegal.org/events

NATIONWIDE

FIGHT AGAINST MILITARY BAN CONTINUES

Lambda Legal joined other LGBT and civil rights groups in filing a friend-of-the-court brief with the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals urging it to uphold a lower court ruling that declared "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) unconstitutional.

"While the ultimate repeal of DADT will allow lesbians and gay men to serve openly," Lambda Legal Staff Attorney Peter Renn said, "the government has not yet addressed the damage it has inflicted upon the thousands of brave men and women who were already discharged. Until the government shows that it has fixed these ongoing problems, this case must proceed." The brief was filed in support of a case originally filed in 2004 by the Log Cabin Republicans.



TO READ OUR BRIEF VISIT

www.lambdalegal.org/impact-2011-dadt-brief

LOUISIANA

SETBACK IN BIRTH CERTIFICATE CASE

In a stunning ruling, the full Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed two prior court rulings and denied an accurate birth certificate to a Louisianaborn five-year-old boy adopted by his two fathers in New York. Lambda Legal represents Oren Adar and Mickey Smith in their case against Louisiana State Registrar Darlene Smith.

"We expected that the state of Louisiana would respect the court decrees of other states, just as states have done for over 200 years," said Lambda Legal Supervising Senior Staff Attorney Ken Upton. "We are astonished that Oren and Mickey and their son have been told by this court that it is OK for the government to discriminate against their family."



FOR UPDATES ON THIS CASE VISIT

www.lambdalegal.org/adar





Hawai'i residents say aloha to greater rights.

DELAWARE AND HAWAI'I

CIVIL UNIONS PASSED

Hawai'i and Delaware recently became the second and third states, respectively, to enact civil unions, following closely on the heels of Illinois. In February, Governor Neil Abercrombie signed Hawai'i's civil unions bill into law, while Delaware Governor Jack Markell signed his state's bill into law in May. Both states' laws take effect January 1, 2012.

With the passing of Hawai'i's civil union bill, Lambda Legal dismissed its 2010 lawsuit *Young v. Lingle*, filed after then-Governor Linda Lingle vetoed a previous civil union bill. "Governor Abercrombie removed the need for the lawsuit with the stroke of a pen—approving the Legislature's diligent work and giving thousands of Hawai'i families badly needed protection," said Lambda Legal's outgoing National Marriage Project Director, Jennifer C. Pizer. "I can't think of many occasions when we've been more delighted to dismiss a lawsuit than this."

In Illinois, the civil union law went into effect June 1. Lambda Legal launched Civil Union Tracker to ensure that same-sex and different-sex couples who enter into a civil union are treated fairly under Illinois law.



NATIONWIDE

SERVING YOUTH IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE

Recently Lambda Legal hosted two Train-the-Trainer sessions in New York as part of its partnership with the National Association of Social Workers. Train-the-Trainer is designed to educate out-of-home care professionals and advocates on how to more effectively meet the needs of LGBTQ youth. Lambda Legal will collaborate with New York—based Master Trainers to train staff in the New York City Department of Youth and Family Justice.

Forty participants in the initial 2009 Trainthe-Trainer session became Master Trainers, each committed to training 40 more people. "We have long since surpassed our initial goal and are currently expanding our initiative to widen our pool of Master Trainers and expand our reach," said Flor Bermudez, Youth in Out-of-Home Care Staff Attorney.

Lambda Legal also held a southern region Train the Trainer session in New Orleans in May. "We want to have Master Trainers available in every region of the country," said Bermudez.

WHAT YOU'RE SAYING>>

A sampling of comments from our Facebook fans

RE: ARKANSAS GAY ADOPTION

Susan Draag: Thank you, Arkansas [Supreme Court], for putting children first and giving them a chance with parents who will dearly love them.

RE: ZACH WAHLS (SEE P. 7)

Harriett Ali Krein-Hart: What a brave and articulate young man. My son watched the video of his statehouse address and said, "Mom, he got it right. That is exactually how we feel. I love both of my moms and you should have equal rights."

RE: DOMA UNDER FIRE (SEE P. 10)

Dustin Wright: Long overdue. Go get 'em, Lambda Legal. My donation will be submitted today.

RE: DELAWARE CIVIL UNIONS (SEE LEFT)

Mary Beth Yarbrough: My dad always said to me, "Don't lose momentum!" If we don't speak up again and again, we will be ignored!



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Merrill Lynch Wealth Management is one of the top national corporate sponsors of Lambda Legal. As a national sponsor of Lambda Legal, Merrill Lynch has assembled a dedicated team of financial advisers to help educate the LGBT community on the financial issues that arise in domestic partnerships, civil unions and marriage. The members of the LGBT Financial Team, with this in mind, offer individual strategies and solutions tailored to meet these unique needs. To help you locate an adviser near you, please call 1-877-MER-LGBT or visit www.totalmerrill.com/ domesticpartners.



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