

MARK LEWIS, et al.,

Plaintiffs-Appellants,

v.

GWENDOLYN L. HARRIS, et al.,

Defendants-Appellees.

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

DOCKET NO. 58,389

CIVIL ACTION

**AFFIDAVIT OF
CRAIG HUTCHISON**

State of New Jersey)
 : ss.
County of Passaic)

Craig Hutchison, having been duly sworn, states as follows:

1. I am one of the Plaintiffs in this lawsuit, and I provide this affidavit in support of the Plaintiffs' Motion in Aid of Litigants' Rights.
2. I am 59 years old, and I am in a permanent committed relationship of 38 years with Christopher Lodewyks, who has also provided an affidavit in support of Plaintiffs' motion. I won't repeat here what Chris has said, but will add some information.
3. There are many reasons why Chris and I have been successful in building our 38-year relationship, and I am very proud of what we have accomplished. We share each other's core values of integrity, community, honor, respect, and love.
4. Chris and I entered a civil union on November 20, 2007. We had a small gathering with a dozen or so of our close friends, and served cake and champagne. While we had

hoped we would be able to choose marriage to express our values, we entered a civil union when the New Jersey legislature made them available. We mainly did this to do what we could to protect our finances and secure those state benefits that came with the civil union. However, thinking or talking about being in a civil union leaves a bad taste in my mouth, because it is separate from marriage.

5. I am an investment portfolio manager in Summit, New Jersey, and have been for 33 years. I have actively volunteered for a number of organizations, most recently serving as chair of the Camp Speers-Eljabar YMCA Board of Trustees, as well as the chairman of their Capital Campaign.

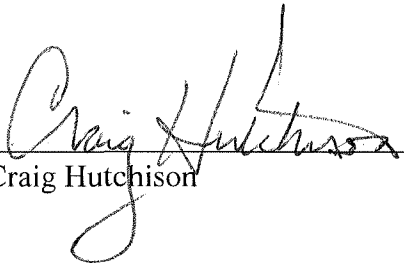
6. Both socially and in business, I am often asked whether or not I am married. Mostly, it's just assumed that I am, and I am questioned about my wife. When I mention that I am in a civil union, people often understand that that means I am gay. I feel that I am lucky in that my clients and the people in my professional circles value what I provide and do not seem to be prejudiced against gay people. Unfortunately, I am aware that often many people who are gay are not treated with respect when they are forced to reveal they are gay by acknowledging their civil unions. The term "marriage" is well understood by all, while "civil union" is separate and less accepted.

7. I am particularly concerned about whether our relationship will be recognized if something happens to either of us when we are traveling outside of New Jersey, because no other state has "civil unions," and they are even less well understood in other states than they are here. I also worry that, even for those who do understand them, our civil union may not be

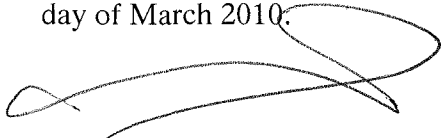
treated as having any legal significance in other states.

8. Attached to this affidavit is a true and correct copy of a photograph of Chris and me.

9. I hereby declare, under penalties of perjury, that the facts stated in this affidavit are personally known to me, and that they are true.


Craig Hutchison

Sworn to me this 15th
day of March 2010.



Notary Public
ELLEN M. HUYLER
A Notary Public of New Jersey
My Commission Expires Aug 2, 2011