



# Proskauer Supports the LGBT Community

**Diversity is a core value of Proskauer and a fundamental element of our culture and history.** It is our policy to ensure equal employment opportunity without discrimination or harassment on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, citizenship, marital status, or any other characteristic protected by the law. We fully understand that our commitment to diversity is essential to our commitment to excellence.

Our dedication to this principle is reflected not only in how we embrace the diversity of LGBT people within our ranks, but also in the long-standing support we have given to the larger LGBT community through our strong Pro Bono Program and our support of leading organizations.

We are proud of our record and provide this guide detailing our involvement with the LGBT community and LGBT issues in recent years.

## sponsorships

- Lambda Liberty Awards
- GLAD – Spirit of Justice Award Dinner
- Immigration Equality
- Lambda Legal
- Lavender Law/NGLA
- LeGaL Foundation Dinner
- New York City Bar LGBT Pride Week Sponsorship
- SMYAL Fall Brunch and Auction
- Sylvia Rivera Law Project
- The ACLU LGBT & AIDS Project Attorney Reception

## Pro Bono

- Representation of indigent clients in housing cases for AIDS Project Los Angeles.
- Contributions to a report recognized in a directive from New York State Governor Paterson's office instructing all New York State agencies to review and revise their policy statements and regulations to ensure that "terms such as 'spouse,' 'husband' and 'wife' are construed in a manner that encompasses legal same-sex marriages" performed outside the state.
- Counsel for GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network).
- Representation of the Keith Haring Foundation which assist AIDS-related and children's charities.
- Participation in a program at the Gay Men's Health Crisis providing estate planning and related legal services to people with HIV/AIDS.

## Equal Rights

- Several amicus briefs, in cooperation with the ACLU, in *Parker v. Lexington*, a case challenging materials used to teach tolerance of sexual orientation in elementary schools.
- Successfully represented gay service members in challenges to their ouster from the armed services in *McVeigh v. Cohen* and *In Re Steven May*.
- FOIA matter on behalf of the Service Members Legal Defense Network which succeeded in forcing the DOD to disclose information collected about student protests against Don't Ask, Don't Tell on the campuses of New York University and the University of California at Berkeley.
- An amicus brief on behalf of the Anti-Defamation League and 11 other LGBT centers in *In re Marriage Cases*, which was cited in the opinion overturning California's ban on same-sex marriage.
- Representation of the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center in reverse discrimination suit brought by former employee.
- Successfully represented the surviving domestic partner of a 9/11 victim in his application to receive survivor benefits from the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund, despite federal nonrecognition of domestic partners.
- A precedent-setting victory in the New York Court of Appeals which held that a family court may determine whether a woman is a child's parent for purposes determining child support.
- Representation of transgender individual in a suit against Suffolk County, New York, alleging discrimination in connection with the county's refusal to allow the client to adopt certain children.

## leadership roles

- Member of the Presidential Council on HIV/AIDS and working with the NYC AIDS Coalition on issues that the community faces.
- Longtime individual supporters and sponsors of Immigration Equality, which assists LGBT people in obtaining fair treatment throughout the immigration process.
- Member of New York State Bar Association's Special Committee on the Civil Rights Agenda.

- Former Chair of the Committee on Lesbians and Gay Men in the Profession.
- New York State Bar on the Committee on LGBT People and the Law.
- Member of the New York City Bar Association LGBT Rights Committee.
- Board member, AIDS Action.
- Member of Equality California 2008 Awards Dinner Host Committee.

## LGBT Affinity Group Co-Chairs:

**Brian D. Huber**  
617.526.9675  
bhuber@proskauer.com

**James Tanaka**  
212.969.3684  
jtanaka@proskauer.com

For more information about Proskauer's diversity efforts, please contact:

**Louie Rodriguez**  
Director of Diversity and Inclusion  
212.969.5063  
lrodriguez@proskauer.com



Proskauer ➤