

WorkWith
TheBest.

Proskauer Supports the LGBTQ Community

Our commitment to diversity is essential to our commitment to excellence and we are proud supporters and members of the LGBTQ community.



Proskauer was recognized as a “Best Place to Work for LGBTQ Equality” in 2020 after earning a perfect score of 100 percent on the Human Rights Campaign’s annual survey. The HRC’s 2020 Corporate Equality Index is the premier benchmarking tool of corporate policies and practices pertinent to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer employees.

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

Peter Wilson Jr.
Diversity and Inclusion Officer
+1.212.969.5042
pwilson@proskauer.com

LGBTQ Affinity Group

LGBTQ Affinity Group is the primary internal resource for LGBTQ lawyers and their allies. The group is a point of contact between Proskauer and the LGBTQ community at large, serving to raise awareness within the Firm of areas of interest to the LGBTQ community and, particularly, social issues affecting LGBTQ lawyers.

The group creates and fosters informal mentoring relationships to support the professional development of LGBTQ lawyers and summer associates, and partners with our legal recruiters to identify ways to promote the Firm to LGBTQ law students and lateral hires.

Events

We frequently hold events to discuss important topics in the LGBTQ community. Recent events have included:

“**LawSuited for Pride**” – a panel discussion on gender identity, gender non-conformity, and gender expression through fashion, in and out of the workplace, with a special look at the documentary film *Suited*.

“**Chechnya: Reacting to a Gay Purge**” – a panel discussion on violence against the LGBTQ community around the globe.

“**After Obergefell: A Conversation About the Supreme Court’s Ruling**” – a panel discussion on the U.S. Supreme Court decision regarding state recognition of same-sex marriage established in other jurisdictions, featuring prominent academics, activists and journalists.

“**After Perry & Windsor: A Conversation About the Supreme Court’s Rulings**” – a panel discussion exploring the impact of the U.S. Supreme Court rulings in two major gay marriage cases, *United States v. Windsor* which challenged the Defense of Marriage Act and *Hollingsworth v. Perry* which challenged California’s Proposition 8 ban on gay marriage.

“**Out on the Field**” and **Pride Reception** – a discussion of athletes coming out as gay on the professional and collegiate levels. The featured guest was Hudson Taylor, the founder and executive director of Athlete Ally, a non-profit organization that promotes inclusiveness in the sports world.

Wealth Planning Presentations – firm-provided wealth planning advice sessions addressing the needs of LGBTQ individuals, couples and families.

“**Brother Outsider**” – a screening of the critically acclaimed documentary about openly gay civil rights activist Bayard Rustin.

LGBTQ Affinity Group Outings – casual get-togethers, such as dinner or bowling, offer an opportunity to reconnect with colleagues and meet new people.

Equal Rights

We are proud to partner with organizations to provide legal support on important cases, such as:

Representation of indigent clients in housing cases for AIDS Project Los Angeles

Serving as counsel for Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN)

Participating in a program at the Gay Men's Health Crisis providing estate planning and related legal services for people with HIV/AIDS

Victoriously defended a gay journalist from the Gaza Strip when he was granted asylum based on his sexual orientation and political opinion

Drafting 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*

Advised on a FOIA matter on behalf of the Service Members Legal Defense Network which succeeded in forcing the

Department of Defense 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

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 Federal Victims Compensation Fund

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 children

Successfully represented an HIV-positive gay pro bono client, who faced harassment and abuse in his native Venezuela, in seeking asylum

We are active members of the LGBTQ community, partnering with and sponsoring organizations and events such as:

American Civil Liberties Union LGBT & AIDS Project

Empire State Pride Agenda

Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project

Immigration Equality

Lambda Legal Liberty Awards

Lavender Law/National LGBT Bar Association

LeGaL

Massachusetts LGBTQ Bar Association

New York City Bar Pride Reception

Services & Advocacy for GLBT Elders (SAGE)

Out & Proud Corporate Counsel Award Reception
