

EQUALITY VIRGINIA

Attorney/Firm Questionnaire

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1. Are you and your firm actively interested in representing gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender (GLBT) clients?

Yes, we actively market our services to GLBT clients in the Washington Blade, The Other Pages, online and through our participation in numerous GLBT-related organizations in the Washington Metropolitan area.

2. Are you or your firm currently representing GLBT clients or have you represented GLBT clients in the past?

Yes, we currently represent many GLBT clients in estate planning, plus we represent numerous GLBT-owned businesses. We have represented many hundreds of such clients in the past. We are considered by many to be the preeminent choice for same-sex couples living in Virginia seeking to protect their partners and families through carefully-drafted estate planning documents.

3. Have you or your firm worked on matters/cases in which the sexual orientation, gender identity or expression of your client or your opponent played a role in the case or was relevant to the legal advice you gave? If so, what types of cases/matters have they been (workplace discrimination, housing discrimination, child custody, adoption, etc)?

Yes. Hundreds of our clients are same-sex couples. Their sexual orientation and relationship status was an important issue in the advice that we gave them and the documents that we created for them.

4. Have you or your firm worked on matter(s)/case(s) in which you advocated for GLBT rights? If so, please describe the case(s)/matter(s).

Yes, I have been a strong advocate for the rights of GLBT people for many years. I helped found the Safe Schools Coalition of Montgomery County in 1995 and later took an active role in protecting students on the basis of sexual orientation in the public schools. I served as a board member of Equality Maryland for ten years and as its president for nearly three years. I am currently chair of its Political Action Committee and I am also a member of Equality Virginia. Our firm is counsel to the Capital Area Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, Equality Maryland and has assisted other GLBT groups with legal matters without charge. Max Barger is also actively involved with a number of GLBT-related groups.

5. Have you or your firm ever used sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression against an opposing party on behalf of a client? If so, how?

No.

6. What areas of your or your firm's practice might be of particular interest to prospective GLBT clients (e.g., workplace/housing discrimination, trusts and estates, tax planning, child custody, adoption or surrogacy, medical decision-making, health care, insurance benefits, personal injury litigation, hate crimes, etc)?

Estate planning for same-sex couples, including tax planning and medical decision-making, represents approximately 50% of our total practice.

7. Do you or your firm have any experience advising transgender people about the specific legal issues affecting such individuals? If so, please give examples.

We have represented transgender individuals with regard to estate planning matters.

8. What is your or your firm's policy on pro bono legal assistance?

We participate in the Whitman-Walker Clinic pro bono estate planning on a volunteer basis for people who meet the qualification guidelines for its assistance.

Lawrence S. Jacobs & Associates, P.C.

Attorneys and Counselors at Law

Lawrence S. Jacobs*
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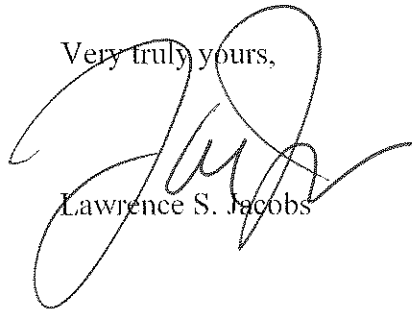
Ms. Mardi Krantz
Equality Virginia
403 N. Robinson Street
Richmond, VA 23220

Re: Firm Questionnaire

Dear Mardi:

In response to your request, enclosed is our firm's completed questionnaire. Please let me know if you require any additional information. We look forward to our continued association with Equality Virginia and its members.

Very truly yours,



Lawrence S. Jacobs

LSJ/jmm
Enclosures
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