

May 26, 2013

Paul R.Q. Wolfson

Joshua Block  
Staff Attorney  
LGBT and AIDS Project  
American Civil Liberties Union  
125 Broad St.,  
New York, NY 10004

+1 202 663 6390 (t)  
+1 202 663 6363 (f)  
paul.wolfson@wilmerhale.com

Dear Mr. Block:

I write in strong support of Alan Schoenfeld's nomination as one of the LGBT Bar Association's Best Lawyers under 40. I have had numerous occasions to work with Alan over the past five years and have been deeply impressed with his professional judgment, his skill as a litigator, and his commitment to doing the right thing – on LGBT issues, certainly, but also more broadly.

Alan is a consummate professional. Every matter on which he works receives his unmistakable attention to detail and his gift for strategic judgment. He is utterly dedicated to pursuing his clients' interests, and any client with Alan as its lawyer knows that he will spare no effort at finding the pathway to its goal. I have seen him to devote himself to clients both big and small, in the U.S. Supreme Court and in trial court, and each one receives the same degree of dedication.

But Alan is also an active citizen as well, and deeply aware of his personal and professional obligation to make the world a better place. He has given countless hours of his time to pro bono projects, particularly (but not only) in the area of LGBT rights. Thus, for example, he and I have worked together on challenges to DOMA and to Proposition 8; on an amicus brief defending Hastings Law School's policy prohibiting discrimination against LGBT students by student organizations; on a brief advocating the right to same-sex divorce in the Maryland courts; on a case in which our transgender client, a prisoner, is seeking access to gender-confirmation surgery; and on many other projects. Not once, when the call came in to help an LGBT client or organization helping LGBT clients, has Alan said no. And to Alan, these are matters that require the same level of attention and dedication that all his other matters receive.

At our law firm, we all recognize Alan's humanity, talent, and dedication, and turn to him first for the most difficult matters. He well deserves recognition for his accomplishments.

Sincerely yours,



Paul R.Q. Wolfson