

**Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40: Class of 2013
Nomination Form**

Nominee Information

Name: Andrew N. Sachs Date of Birth: 11/26/1975
Title: Attorney Firm/Organization: Wrenn Bender LLP
Mailing Address: 601 Union Street, Suite 5305 City, State Zip: Seattle, WA 98101
Phone Number: 206-395-7623 Email Address: asachs@wrennbender.com

Nominator Information

Name: Daniel J. Shih
Title: Attorney Firm/Organization: Susman Godfrey LLP
Mailing Address: 1201 Third Avenue, Suite 3800 City, State Zip: Seattle, WA 98101
Phone Number: 206-373-7390 Email Address: dshih@susmangodfrey.com
Relationship to Nominee: Served on the board of QLaw (the GLBT Bar Association of Washington) while Andy was president of the organization.

Optional: To your knowledge, does the nominee identify as any of the following?

☐ Racial or Ethnic Minority ☐ Female ☐ Transgender
☐ Person with Disability ☐ Other: _____

The complete nomination package must be submitted via email to nominations@LGBTbar.org **no later than 5:00 pm EDT on June 3, 2013**. Please submit the following information:

- Nomination Form
- Statement of Support of Nominee (not to exceed 2 pages). Please include:
 - Details on achievements within their legal field
 - Details on their commitment to LGBT equality
- Current Resume of the Nominee
- Letters of Support

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR ANDREW N. SACHS
Nominated for Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40

Andy Sachs is just entering his seventh year of practice as an attorney – and also his seventh year living in Washington State. In that short time, he has: been twice-elected as president of the state’s LGBT bar association; been a leader on the state’s historic marriage equality campaign; chaired a statewide nonprofit advocating for abused and neglected children; served on the transition team for the state’s Attorney General; advised the state’s Attorney General on LGBT issues; been appointed by the state Supreme Court to take the lead on access to justice issues; been appointed by a former Supreme Court Justice to advise on a project focused on improving outcomes for LGBT youth in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems; served on the board of directors for the statewide LGBT advocacy group; mentored law students; and built a reputation as a top notch lawyer with a successful national-level practice.

I nominate Andy for this award because I look up to him as an impactful leader in the legal and LGBT community, and because I have witnessed first-hand that his leadership and dedication has improved the lives of countless people – particularly in the LGBT community, and among abused and neglected youth. Not only do I recognize his leadership and the influence he has had in our community, but I am clearly not alone in my respect for all he has done, as is evidenced by the number of elected leaders, bar leaders, and community leaders who have come to depend on him. I hope the committee will bestow this award on him, as I can think of no one in my community who is more deserving.

I currently serve on the board of directors of QLaw, the GLBT Bar Association of Washington. Andy recently completed four years on the board. Within three months of being on the board, he was asked to become president-elect. Upon becoming president and serving his first term with such distinction, the board of directors was so impressed by his passion and vision for the organization that we asked him to stay on for an unprecedented second term. Andy completed his second term, and then stayed on as immediate past president before “retiring” from the board. Although all of us would have loved for him to remain on the board, Andy’s impact as a leader was noticed by the broader community, and he is constantly being asked (and saying “yes”) to serve on other statewide boards and to lead other initiatives, both within the LGBT community, and within the legal community at large.

My observation of Andy as a leader who has had a profound impact on the lives of those in the LGBT community in Washington State comes from my time serving with him on the QLaw board of directors. I have never seen a volunteer spend so much time, and become so dedicated, to an organization and a cause. I am still not sure how Andy managed to balance his duties as QLaw president with all the other commitments he had taken on simultaneously – including his commitment to Equal Rights Washington (our statewide LGBT advocacy group), his role on the coordinating committee of the Washington United for Marriage campaign, and his role as chair-elect (then chair) of the Washington State CASA board of directors, advocating for abused and neglected children (who are disproportionately LGBT youth). All of this, while maintaining a busy and successful practice as a litigator.

As QLaw president, he was focused on elevating the organization from a small minority bar association to a politically impactful organization that would be looked to by the legal community and the State’s LGBT community to take the lead on important political and advocacy issues – not the least of which was marriage equality. And he succeeded in doing just that. QLaw is now a go-to organization for

the LGBT community, and is asked regularly by elected officials, judges, and bar leaders, to take the lead on not only issues which impact the LGBT community, but issues which impact underprivileged and minority communities, generally.

Andy worked with a broad coalition of community leaders when the Seattle Police Department had a series of troubling incidents involving unnecessary use of force directed at minority communities. That work led to a Department of Justice investigation, which has ultimately led to a change in leadership at the police department and a long list of reforms to which the Seattle Police Department has agreed.

When two of Washington's Supreme Court justices said that there are more minorities in jail and prison simply because members of such minorities commit more crimes, Andy joined a coalition of elected officials, academics, judges, and bar leaders on the statewide Task Force on Race and the Criminal Justice System to work on issues of disproportionality in the criminal justice system.

This work, while extremely important in its own right, also profoundly impacted the LGBT community. Because of Andy's skill at coalition building, and his genuine dedication to helping communities of color on these kinds of issues, those communities lined up en masse to assist QLaw and the LGBT community on the marriage campaign last year (November 2012). Andy lined up the support of the legal community and a vast coalition of minority groups, who dedicated their volunteer time and their money to the Washington United for Marriage campaign – an historic and successful campaign which brought marriage equality to Washington. As a father of three children who can now marry my long-time partner, I am grateful for Andy's work on this issue, as it insures my family can now be recognized and viewed equally by the State of Washington.

As a lawyer who has practiced in this State, and who also maintains a national litigation practice, I can tell you that Andy's reputation as an attorney is just as stellar as his reputation as a leader. He is known to be smart, dedicated to his clients, and successful in his practice.

On a personal level, I find Andy to be an effective leader because he is genuine and leads by example. His dedication and hard work is a model for those around him, and it inspires those who work with him to work harder. He also regularly takes an interest in the careers of LGBT law students and younger LGBT lawyers – mentoring those who seek his counsel, and taking a genuine interest in seeing others succeed. When I encounter young lawyers or law students who need advice, I tell them to talk to Andy, and I know others do the same.

I know the standards for an award of this nature are very high, and I do not take this nomination lightly. I am nominating Andy, not because I think he's a pretty good lawyer for someone younger than 40 years old, but because I truly believe he is an elite lawyer and community leader who just happens to be under the age of 40. As the recipient of this award, he will make the National LGBT Bar Association proud.

Sincerely,



Daniel J. Shih

ANDREW N. SACHS

4515 Greenwood Ave. N. #101 ▪ Seattle, Washington 98103 ▪ 206-395-7623 ▪ asachs@wrennbender.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Wrenn Bender LLP

Litigation Attorney – Seattle

January 2011 - present

Practice Areas: Complex commercial litigation; intellectual property; environmental litigation

- **Experience:** Representing a large riparian owner in federal court (District of Oregon) in insurance recovery case; defending a manufacturer in a multi-party environmental dispute brought by the Orange County Water District in Orange County Superior Court (Santa Ana, CA); defending a domain registrar in a trademark infringement case brought by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences in federal court (Central District of California); first chair of trial for property damage in King County Superior Court (Seattle, WA), representing small-business owner against city-hired construction company.

Bennett Bigelow & Leedom, P.S.

Litigation Associate – Seattle

2010

Practice Areas: Complex commercial litigation; medical malpractice defense; labor and employment

- **Experience:** Defended one of the largest police departments in Washington against a claim of racial discrimination in the workplace; represented physicians groups, hospitals, and other medical professionals against claims of malpractice; defended a manufacturer in a claim under international law for alleged injuries sustained by factory workers.

Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

Litigation Associate – Seattle

2008-2009

Practice Areas: Complex commercial litigation; intellectual property

- **Experience:** Defended a publicly traded biotech company in a dispute with a former vendor; first chair at oral arguments in federal court (Eastern District of Washington), representing a major financial institution in mortgage industry cases; lead counsel in federal court (Western District of Washington) in FOIA case against U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (prevailed on appeal to Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals).

Heller Ehrman LLP

Litigation Associate; Summer Associate – Seattle

2005, 2006-2008

Practice Areas: Complex commercial litigation; intellectual property; antitrust

- **Experience:** Represented one of the world's largest manufacturers of consumer products in multiple cases in federal court on claims of trademark infringement and earned several judgments for maximum statutory damages under the Lanham Act; first chair at 10-day trial for termination of parental rights, representing the CASA for an abused and neglected child; first chair at appellate argument before Washington State Court of Appeals in adverse possession case; defended international luxury hotel chain against claims they violated the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, and obtained settlement for less than one-percent of claim.

Husch & Eppenger, LLC

Summer Associate – St. Louis

2004

Sourcebooks, Inc.

Publicist – Naperville, IL

2002-2003

- Placed authors on Oprah, The Today Show, and numerous local network television affiliates.

Focal Communications Corporation

Public Relations Manager/Acting Director - Chicago

2001-2002

- Responsible for strategic public relations decisions, internal communications, external positioning, and media outreach for telecommunications competitive local exchange carrier.
- Placed stories in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, and other daily newspapers.

WCIA-TV (CBS)

General Assignments Reporter/Consumer Reporter/Anchor – Champaign, IL

1998-2001

- Created “Ask Andy” consumer/financial segment.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Defended a large riparian owner on the Willamette River in an insurance recovery case at the Portland Harbor Superfund site against multiple insurance carriers; obtained summary judgment creating new law in the District of Oregon, whereby an insurance carrier has a duty to defend against threatened EPA actions, even where a lawsuit is not filed.
- Represented a manufacturer and landowner in Orange County, CA, against claims by the water district that it had contributed to groundwater contamination in a suit involving 50 defendants; obtained multiple favorable rulings on summary judgment which ended the case against our client and avoided a 60-day court trial.
- Represented one of the world’s largest consumer products manufacturers in multiple anti-counterfeiting matters under the Lanham Act; obtained maximum statutory awards on summary judgment.
- Defended one of the largest insurance carriers in the United States in an insurance contribution case, and obtained dismissal on summary judgment.
- Represented a prominent Seattle-based law firm in a professional liability case, and settled for less than five-percent of plaintiff’s claim.
- Defended one of the world’s largest financial institutions in a case dealing with emerging issues related to the financial crisis of October 2008, and obtained dismissal of the case, following denial of plaintiff’s motion for preliminary injunction.

EDUCATION

University of Chicago Law School

Juris Doctor

2006

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Bachelor of Science – Marketing

1998

- Mortar Board national honorary; Senior 100 (Top 100 seniors based on academics and leadership)

Senshu University, Tokyo, Japan

Study abroad curriculum focused on international business and Japanese language

1996

COMMUNITY/PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- **Center for Children & Youth Justice**, eQuality Project Advisory Council, 2013-present
- **Access to Justice Board**, 2012-present
- **QLaw: the GLBT Bar Association of Washington**, Board of Directors, 2009-2013 (President, 2010-12)
- **Washington State CASA**, Board of Directors, 2009-2013 (Board Chair, 2012-13)
- **Washington United for Marriage**, Coordinating Council, 2012
- **Equal Rights Washington**, Board of Directors, 2008-2012 (Vice Chair, 2010-12)
- **Task Force on Race and the Criminal Justice System**, Executive Committee, 2010-2012
- **Washington State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division**
- **Rebuilding Together Seattle**

INTERESTS

- Triathlons (completed two full Ironmans); Marathons; Skiing; Backpacking; Travel; Politics; Indie music; Searching for good deep dish pizza in Seattle

The Supreme Court
State of Washington

STEVEN C. GONZÁLEZ
JUSTICE
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
POST OFFICE BOX 40929
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON 98504-0929



(360) 357-2029
FAX (360) 357-2103
E-MAIL J_S.GONZALEZ@COURTS.WA.GOV

May 31, 2013

The National LGBT Bar Association
1301 K Street NW, Suite 1100 East Tower
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Andrew Sachs for "Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40"
Award

Award Committee:

I am pleased to write in support of Andy Sachs for this award. He has worked diligently, collaboratively and courageously for social justice and equality for all. The description of the criteria for this award explains exactly how I feel about Andy: he has distinguished himself in his field and demonstrated a profound commitment to LGBT equality.

I got to know Andy prior to my appointment to the Washington Supreme Court, when I was a Superior Court judge in King County. I helped convene the statewide Task Force on Race and the Criminal Justice System following an unfortunate incident where two justices made comments indicating a lack of understanding about the true cause of disproportionality in our state's criminal justice system. I invited many leaders of the legal community to participate, including Andy. Some declined – or showed up only a couple times before their participation faded. Andy, on the other hand, not only showed up, but took an active role on the Task Force, and ultimately became a member of the executive committee. He did this in spite of the fact that, at least on its face, the Task Force was not designed to address issues of sexual orientation. Through Andy's participation, however, the work of the Task Force came to include this important perspective. For example, in our analysis of disproportionality in juvenile court, it was critical for us to recognize the significant disproportionality for LGBT youth.

Prior to my appointment to the Supreme Court, I also served as Chair of the Access to Justice Board – a board appointed by the Supreme Court to tackle issues surrounding access to civil legal aid. When I was appointed to the Supreme Court, my seat on the Board opened up, and I encouraged Andy to apply for my position, and encouraged my colleagues on the Court to select Andy. Andy's hard work, dedication, collaborative

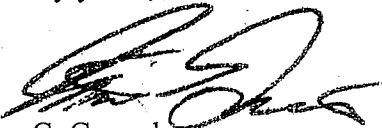
leadership skills, and intelligence led me to the same conclusion as my colleagues – that he was the right person for this important job.

Andy's dedication to these issues has directly benefited the LGBT community. While serving as president of QLaw, Andy was one of a small committee of LGBT leaders entrusted with organizing and executing the campaign to pass marriage legislation, and to uphold the legislation by a statewide vote in November 2012. Andy's work with diverse communities, and the respect he has earned through this work, allowed him, and QLaw, to play a key role in the campaign by lining up the critical support of communities of color and the legal community.

I think so highly of Andy's reputation and leadership in the community that I asked him to serve on the steering committee of my retention campaign. He was one of a small handful of young attorneys I asked to serve. I needed the advice and the assistance of highly respected leaders throughout the state, and very few young attorneys rise to that level. In Andy's case, however, I felt he had earned the respect of his peers and would be an asset to my campaign. I was honored that he agreed to serve in that role, and he helped my campaign succeed.

It is rare that someone who is as young in his career as Andy would command such respect within the community, and exhibit such profound dedication to LGBT issues – and broader issues of fairness and equality. But Andy has done so, and I believe giving him this award would be a perfect way to recognize him for all that he has achieved in his career and added to the LGBT community – both as a lawyer and as a community leader.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven C. Gonzalez", with a stylized, flowing script.

Steven C. Gonzalez
Justice, Washington State Supreme Court

Jason C. Holloway
(206) 626-6000
jason.holloway@stokeslaw.com

June 3, 2013

The National LGBT Bar Association
1301 K Street NW, Suite 1100 East Tower
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Andrew Sachs for “Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40” Award

To Whom It May Concern:

I enthusiastically write this letter in support of Andy Sachs for this award. I have known Andy for several years, and though he is younger than me (and junior to me in his practice), I consider him a mentor because of the incredible work he has done on behalf of LGBT rights, and because of the leader he has become in our community.

I got to know Andy through my service on the board of directors of QLaw, the GLBT Bar Association of Washington. Andy was president when I joined the Board – serving for two consecutive terms, and truly elevating the stature of the organization during his time as president. I am now the new president of the organization, and I better understand two things about Andy’s terms as president: (1) the respect he built for the organization is enduring, and is allowing me to more effectively lead the organization and set aggressive goals; and (2) the incredible number of hours and dedication he put in as a two-term volunteer president cannot be understated.

With respect to the first item, Andy’s hard work, and the respect he earned, brought enduring credibility to QLaw, which has allowed us to continue to play a vital role in the most important issues facing the LGBT community in Washington. For example, through Andy, QLaw played an integral role in the successful marriage equality campaign; his credibility with other community leaders helped attract an influential board of directors and advisory council to the organization which has only further increased our influence in the community; and his incredible ability to build relationships and coalitions with other minority communities has helped us speak with one voice (thereby increasing our influence) on issues of importance to the LGBT community and, more broadly, the minority communities of Washington State.

With respect to the second item, Andy’s incredible dedication has provided a model for other leaders of our organization – and tough shoes to fill for future presidents. Andy’s

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Stokes Lawrence, P.S.

leadership style is about more than just showing up. It is about earning respect, leading by example, and setting tough goals and encouraging others to keep working until they are reached.

What has impressed me most about Andy's work is that it has not been confined to simply leading one organization. Andy has worked hard, through Equal Rights Washington, Washington United for Marriage, and by mentoring many LGBT law students and junior attorneys, to ensure that true equality for LGBT attorneys and the LGBT community at large, is achieved. He is now working on a project aimed at influencing statewide policy with respect to LGBT youth in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems (the "eQuality Project" through the Center for Children and Youth Justice) – just one more example of how he continues to dedicate himself to issues of importance in our community.

Not only has he dedicated himself to numerous LGBT issues, but he has simultaneously worked on behalf of abused and neglected children – through Washington State CASA – to help the most vulnerable populations in our state achieve permanence in stable homes. That work, of course, also helps LGBT youth. But, more importantly, it shows that Andy is concerned about fairness and equality for all – regardless of background. Ultimately, as members of the LGBT community, we must recognize that all minority communities face challenges, and we must work to assist all minority and disadvantaged communities. Such work not only benefits the LGBT community by building broad support for our issues, but it is simply the right thing to do. Andy understands this better than anyone I know.

Finally, I would be leaving out an important part of Andy's qualifications if I did not mention his skill as a lawyer. Several of my law partners are former colleagues of Andy, so I have been aware of his reputation as a talented litigator for quite some time. His reputation in the community confirms this. He is known to be just as smart, genuine, and dedicated to his clients as he is in his work on behalf of the LGBT community.

Andy truly embodies the qualifications for this award, and it is my hope that the committee recognizes him for his outstanding accomplishments.

Very truly yours,

STOKES LAWRENCE, P.S.



Jason C. Holloway



Michael R. Wrenn
Direct: 206-395-7621
mwrenn@wrennbender.com

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May 31, 2013

Via E-Mail

The National LGBT Bar Association
1301 K Street NW, Suite 1100 East Tower
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Andrew Sachs for "Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40" Award

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Andy for his entire professional career as an attorney, and I enthusiastically recommend him for this award. I got to know Andy when he was a summer associate in the Seattle office of Heller Ehrman, where he later began his career as a litigation associate. Although the firm regularly hired top students from top law schools, Andy has always distinguished himself, both as a lawyer and as a member of our community.

As you are probably aware, in October 2008, Heller Ehrman fell victim to the difficult financial times and dissolved. A few months prior to the dissolution of the firm, one of my partners at Heller Ehrman made the decision to move his practice to Davis Wright Tremaine. Among the very many talented lawyers at Heller Ehrman at the time, my colleague asked only one associate to go with him – Andy. I think that speaks as highly of Andy's skills as any adjectives I might be able to use to describe him.

A couple years after the dissolution of Heller Ehrman, I formed a new law firm with another one of my former partners. I thought so highly of Andy that I recruited him to join our new firm, and he has been with us ever since.

Andy is one of the best writers I have ever worked with in my 30 years of legal practice. He is smart, and has a unique way of breaking down extremely complex matters into straightforward and highly effective (and successful) written briefs. Moreover, he is a talented standup lawyer who excels in the courtroom. He instinctively understands how to interact with clients. The large corporate clients who make up the bulk of our client base find him to be an extremely smart and effective lawyer.

When Andy joined my firm, we were in the middle of a large, complex case, involving multiple parties, which had already been going on for several years. Andy jumped right into the case and immediately understood the issues. He quickly became an indispensable member of that team,

May 31, 2013

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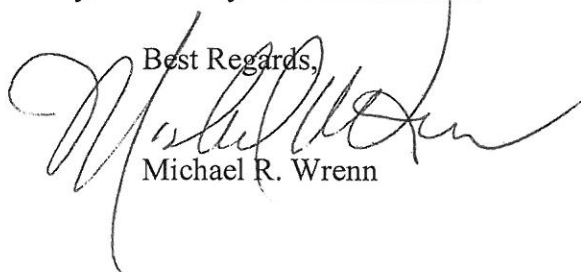
and proved himself time and again on that case – which recently went to trial. His recent work includes complex environmental litigation involving more than 50 parties in Southern California, and a unique intellectual property case which is making new law with respect to trademark enforcement and domain registrars.

I have also known Andy and observed his work outside of the firm. There, again, he has had a profound impact. I became involved in Equal Rights Washington – the LGBT advocacy organization in Washington State – years ago. I thought so highly of Andy's dedication to LGBT issues, and his effectiveness as a leader, that I recruited him to join the board. He immediately earned the respect of his much more senior colleagues, and became a leader on the board. Without Andy's dedication and leadership, the organization would not have been nearly as effective in leading our state through a marriage equality campaign.

Finally, I am also a member of QLaw, the GLBT Bar Association of Washington. Andy served two terms as president of QLaw – unprecedented in the history of the organization. And he did so at the most critical time in our history – during the buildup to the marriage campaign. Andy crisscrossed the state, building support among straight allies, women, and communities of color for the marriage campaign. He also engaged communities in Eastern Washington, which skews far more conservative and has a far lower LGBT population. Undeterred by history or demographics, Andy successfully engaged many communities in Eastern Washington, and brought that critical support to the marriage campaign.

As but one recent example of the respect Andy has gained in his short time as a lawyer, Andy was recently asked by our state's newly elected Attorney General, Bob Ferguson, to serve on his transition team. Andy continues to serve Attorney General Ferguson, informally, as an advisor on LGBT issues. I think that speaks volumes about Andy as both a lawyer and a community leader.

It is very rare to see a person only seven years into his career have such a profound impact on his community and in his profession. Andy has done both. I have lost count of the number of times he has been asked by elected officials, judges, community leaders, and bar leaders to help on various issues. Andy is known in the community not only as an LGBT leader, but, simply, as a leader and as a person who gets things done. He is extremely deserving of this award. Thank you for considering him. Please let me know if you need any more information.

Best Regards,

Michael R. Wrenn

**Superior Court of the State of Washington
for the County of King**

Mary I. Yu
Judge
(206) 296-9275

King County Courthouse
Seattle, Washington 98104-2381
e-mail: mary.yu@kingcounty.gov

June 2, 2013

The National LGBT Bar Association
1301 K Street NW, Suite 1100 East Tower
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Letter of Support for Andrew Sachs for "Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40" Award

Dear Awards Committee:

I am pleased to submit this letter of support on behalf of Andrew ("Andy") Sachs' nomination for one of the "Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40" Award. I first became acquainted with Andy in his role as president of the statewide GLBT Bar Association, known as QLaw. Having been involved with QLaw since its inception, I am confident that it was Andy's personal leadership that enabled the organization to grow from a grassroots minority bar association to an influential gay rights organization in the wider community.

As you may know, the past year was a critical year on so many fronts related to marriage equality. Under Andy's guidance, QLaw was instrumental in getting legislation passed in our state legislature and for ensuring it was upheld by the voters of Washington in a historic popular vote. Andy galvanized the membership of QLaw and other minority bar associations to become engaged and active on the issue and it was an extraordinary movement. Andy served consecutive terms because QLaw's Board of Directors and membership had confidence in his ability to finish the job he started with respect to marriage equality and it became the crucial issue for the community. Managing the effort required vision, commitment, and hundreds of hours per year of volunteer time. Andy dedicated himself fully, all while balancing numerous other volunteer commitments and maintaining a busy and successful practice.

As a Superior Court Judge, I have the great fortune of becoming familiar with many members of our Bar in a variety of settings. We have a very talented community, particularly within the LGBT community. However, I can say without hesitation that Andy stands out among them as an extraordinary young lawyer who has unusual talent and a unique ability to develop and build relationships across various sectors and constituencies; frankly one of the best! He has had a profound impact on our community in a very short period of time.

In addition to his remarkable work on marriage, Andy joined an important statewide initiative to reduce racial disproportionality in our criminal justice system. I chair the Washington Supreme Court Commission on Minority and Justice and over the last three years, Andy lent

assistance to the effort through his work on a parallel statewide Taskforce on Race and the Criminal Justice System – a coalition of academics, elected officials, judges, and attorneys who are working toward solutions to the problem of racial disproportionality in our state’s prisons and jails. Through this work, Andy has been a voice not only for ethnic/racial minorities in our state, but for the LGBT population who are so often under-counted, or uncounted altogether. Andy has also used this work as an opportunity to build strong coalitions with other minority communities. During the campaign for marriage equality last year, Andy leveraged these relationships and obtained unanimous support among the other statewide minority bar associations for marriage equality. Many of those bar associations donated their time and substantial money to the campaign – all thanks to Andy’s efforts to build a broad coalition of support across a racially diverse community.

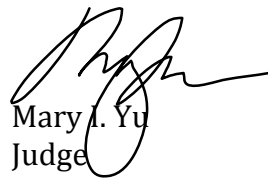
Andy has also been a strong advocate for abused and neglected children, especially those in our foster care system. Many of these children are disproportionately LGBT youth. Serving as pro bono counsel for Court Appointed Special Advocates (“CASAs”), Andy has spent countless hours in court advocating for children in need. In addition, he has served for many years on the statewide board of Washington State CASA, recently completing a term as chair of the board.

Andy’s reputation as a lawyer and community leader led to his appointment by our State’s Supreme Court to the prestigious Access to Justice Board – a small group of statewide leaders who work on our state plan to ensure access to the civil legal system for those who are historically underrepresented. To my knowledge, no one as junior in his career has ever been appointed to this Board; this appointment speaks volumes about his accomplishments and the confidence we have in this young lawyer.

Finally, although Andy has never appeared before me in court, his reputation is that of a first-rate litigator handling some of the most complex work being done around the country. He has the respect of the bench and the bar. Andy is a dedicated and influential leader in our community and he is so worthy of this recognition. He is indeed our best of those under 40!

Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Mary L. Yu
Judge