

## Baker&Hostetler LLP

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June 3, 2013

Selection Committee for LGBT Bar's  
Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40  
1301 K Street NW  
Suite 1100 East Tower  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Selection Committee:

I have worked with Brian Esser for over 3 years. I am happy to call him a colleague and friend, and support his nomination to the LGBT Bar's Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40 without hesitation.

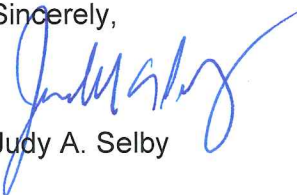
For the first several years we worked together, I lead BakerHostetler's E-Discovery and Technology group, of which Brian was a critical member. He has an impressive command of litigation technology, electronic discovery, and case management. Brian helped to manage the data set that the Trustee for the liquidation of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC assumed control of upon his appointment by the court. The evidence included thousands of pieces of electronic media, millions of documents, and terabytes of data. Brian can break down technical concepts to make them accessible to a general audience and act as an intermediary for the forensic technology teams and the lawyers litigating the case, all the while paying attention to the big picture of the litigation strategy.

In addition to being a great lawyer, Brian is widely recognized as one of the leaders of the LGBT community here at Baker, both in New York and firm-wide. Brian was instrumental to the firm's addition of gender identity and expression to the non-discrimination statement. He regularly takes on pro bono cases that benefit the community such as asylum cases for LGBT petitioners and second-parent adoptions for same-sex couples. And, as you are no doubt aware, he serves as Secretary of the National LGBT Bar Foundation. Brian truly leads by example – he is out and open in the work place, a great lawyer, involved in the LGBT community, and an example of a husband and father. He and his husband, Kevin, are wonderful parents to their beautiful son, Keith. Further, because Brian is an excellent role model, I have asked him to mentor a young friend of the family who recently came out and moved to New York.

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I wholeheartedly recommend Brian for this award and am available to discuss at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Judy A. Selby