

# JONES DAY

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June 3, 2013

## TO THE AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE

**Re: NLGBT Bar Association “Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40 Award” – Brian McDonald**

To the Committee:

I am a partner in the law firm Jones Day, and I have served as Leader of Jones Day's Global Insurance Recovery Practice Group. Prior to joining Jones Day, I was a partner in the law firm of Heller Ehrman in San Francisco.

I write this letter to express my most enthusiastic support for Brian McDonald as a candidate for one of the Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40. I have known Brian for about 10 years, first when he was an associate at Heller Ehrman, and then as an associate and now Partner at Jones Day. I have had the pleasure of working very closely with Brian on many matters, including major litigation engagements, and I have had the unique opportunity to watch him develop from a bright young lawyer to an experienced, accomplished and extremely effective client advocate.

Brian's professional accomplishments are extraordinary. Not only has he developed into a capable first chair litigator and fierce courtroom advocate, but also he has mastered the subtle complexities presented by massive insurance disputes, and is able to present them simply and convincingly. Clients have expressed great confidence in and trust of Brian, for good reason.

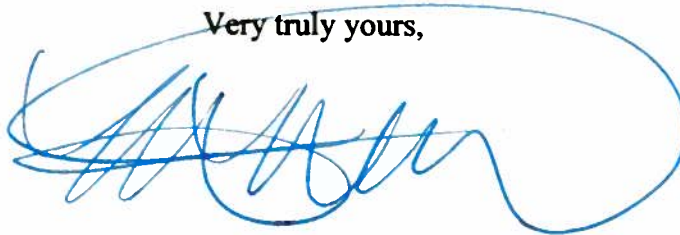
But it is Brian's achievements outside the courtroom that are perhaps most compelling, and in my estimation should place him high in the ranks of the World's Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40. While maintaining a tremendously busy litigation practice, Brian has taken important leadership roles for the AIDS Legal Referral Panel, and has been active in BAYLIF for many years. At Jones Day he has taken local and national roles for the Diversity Committee, and has cultivated close working relationships with other leaders of the Firm's diversity efforts. He has been a leader if not the leader of the Firm's participation in San Francisco Pride events. Beyond all of this, and perhaps most important from my perspective is Brian's mentoring of, and leadership by example for younger lawyers. Brian is unfailingly available to help and counsel junior lawyers, whether LGBT or straight, and his advice and counsel are routinely sought and extremely valuable.

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I do not know and cannot imagine another LGBT Lawyer Under 40 more deserving of national recognition for his work advancing the interests and of LGBT lawyers everywhere. Brian does this simply by being himself, and I am grateful to work with him and learn from him.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide more information, or if you would like to discuss Brian's candidacy.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke, enclosed within a large, loose blue oval.

Martin H. Myers