

June 3, 2013

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

Re: National LGBT Bar Association's Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40 Award

Dear Selection Committee:

Doug Champion has asked me to write to you in support of his application for the National LGBT Bar Association's Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40 Award and I am happy to do so.

This recommendation may be deceptively short due to my unequivocal endorsement of Doug. He is simply one of the strongest lawyers that I have worked with during my 29 years at Gibson Dunn. His proven ability to handle complex real estate transactions, lead large teams and manage client relationships is remarkable. He is a superstar in the real estate group with bright prospects for long-term success at the Firm.

These are all stand-out characteristics that would place Doug high on the list of potential candidates for the Best Under 40 Award. But the true stand-out quality about Doug that really makes people notice him is his simultaneous breadth of experience and command of the details. He is able to focus on the larger important issues while still maintaining a firm grasp on all of the nuances of a transaction. In addition, and perhaps most importantly, Doug has an unflappable, cheerful disposition no matter how stressful the work.

Recently Doug managed the real estate and land use work related to MidAmerican Energy Holdings' (a holding company controlled by Berkshire Hathaway), in the acquisition and subsequent financing of the \$2 billion Topaz Solar Farm project from First Solar. The Topaz transaction involved in excess of 20,000 acres of property and complex mineral rights issues. He was a key factor in that deal's success, and it and was one of the largest energy deals in 2011. He subsequently handled the real estate issues for MidAmerican as sponsor, in the \$1.195 billion financing by Topaz Solar Farms that was recognized as the 2012 North American Solar Deal of the Year and the largest renewables bond financing ever. His work so impressed the client that he is now serving as their lead counsel for the implementation

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and development of the solar installation, as well as counsel on assorted wind and other renewable energy transactions.

Doug does far more than focus on billable-work at the Firm but instead is an exemplary Firm citizen and has set an example for other associates to follow. He is the co-head of the local diversity committee, serves on the Los Angeles Hiring Committee and was a member of the Transactional Retreat Planning Committee. His outside committee work for the Equality California and the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center is impressive and further demonstrates his commitment to diversity. As is his willingness to help Lambda Legal Defense in negotiation of the lease for their office space. He shows up and pitches in, wherever the need is greatest. He is the complete package and would make an excellent addition to the Best Lawyers under 40 List.

I recommend Doug highly. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can tell you anything more about Doug. I can be reached at 213-229-7151.

Very truly yours,



Amy R. Forbes

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