

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

***Nominee Information***

Name: Jeffrey Jacoby Date of Birth: 3/29/83; 9;  
Title: Senior Associate Firm/Organization: Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2824 City, State Zip: San Francisco, CA 94126-2824  
Phone Number: (415) 983-1277 Email Address: jeffrey.jacobi@pillsburylaw.com

***Nominator Information***

Name: The LGBT Partners of Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP  
Title: (Partner Sarah Good serving as contact for the group) Firm: Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2824 City, State Zip: San Francisco, CA 94126-2824  
Phone Number: (415) 983-1314 Email Address: sarah.good@pillsburylaw.com  
Relationship to Nominee: Colleagues and supervisors

**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](mailto: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



Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP  
Four Embarcadero Center, 22nd Floor | San Francisco, CA 94111-5998 | tel 415.983.1000 | fax 415.983.1200  
MAILING ADDRESS: P. O. Box 2824 | San Francisco, CA 94126-2824

Sarah A. Good  
sarah.good@pillsburylaw.com

May 30, 2013

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

Re: Nomination of Jeffrey Jacobi as Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40: Class  
of 2013

Dear Members of the Selection Committee:

Pillsbury's LGBT Partners unanimously and unreservedly nominate our out and proud colleague, Jeff Jacobi, to be one of the Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40: Class of 2013. Jeff is a highly accomplished attorney, a caring human being and committed to giving back to the community through service on non-profit boards and significant pro bono legal representation, including organizations and matters dedicated to LGBT equality and services to those living with HIV/AIDS. Below, I focus on three areas in which Jeff has excelled and which are amplified in the accompanying six letters of recommendation.

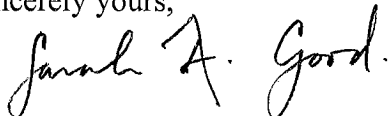
*First*, Jeff has been a litigation associate at Pillsbury for nearly six years following graduation from the University of Michigan Law School and Yale College. During his tenure at Pillsbury, Jeff has impressed everyone with his tremendous intellect, work ethic, integrity and excellence as an attorney. In particular, Jeff has handled every aspect of litigation matters – from the filing of a complaint through trial and appeals – and has done so in an outstanding manner. Three of Jeff's letters of recommendation – those by Judge Jeffrey Ross of the Superior Court for the City and County of San Francisco, Jeff Adachi, San Francisco's Public Defender and Thomas V. Loran III, a Pillsbury partner – describe these accomplishments in great detail.

*Second*, in addition to being an excellent attorney, Jeff is an incredible colleague and team player. He has a great deal of integrity, is well liked in the office among everyone and always is willing to help others when there is a need.

*Third*, Jeff has demonstrated an unequivocal commitment to helping less fortunate members of our community and to issues concerning the LGBT community. Prior to law school, Jeff served for two years with Teach for America as a middle school teacher for students with learning handicaps and cognitive impairments in the San Francisco public school system. During law school, Jeff was an active member of Michigan's LGBT law student organization, Outlaws, and write a note for the Michigan Journal of Law Reform on Native American tribal same-sex marriage policy. While at Pillsbury, Jeff has undertaken several significant pro bono matters, including representing a death row inmate, advising indigent HIV/AIDS clients, defending indigent tenants in unlawful detainer matters and representing a non-profit in a dispute. Jeff recently worked at the San Francisco Public Defender's Office for approximately six months where he provided legal representation to indigent criminal defendants. In addition, Jeff has served for nearly two years on the Board of Directors of the AIDS Legal Referral Panel (ALRP), the nation's oldest organization solely dedicated to addressing the civil legal needs of people living with HIV/AIDS (with approximately 80% of its clients from the LGBT community). Jeff also is on our firm's organizing committee to create a new LGBT Employee Resource Group for all LGBT Pillsbury employees and our allies. Three of Jeff's letters of recommendation – those by Bill Hirsch, Executive Director of the ALRP, Rosa Bay of the East Bay Community Law Center, and Ryan Takemoto, in-house counsel at VISA – describe these accomplishments in more detail.

In sum, Jeff Jacobi is an outstanding attorney and person who is committed to LGBT equality and helping indigent members of our community. In recognition of his significant contributions, Jeff has been honored with the Outstanding Volunteer in Public Service award for 2011 and 2012 from the Volunteer Legal Services Program of the Bar Association of San Francisco. We hope that The National LGBT Bar Association shares our unqualified view that Jeff is worthy of the honor of being named one of the 2013 Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40. Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah A. Good". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sarah A. Good

On behalf of the LGBT Partners of Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

# JEFFREY S. JACOBI

---

## EDUCATION

### University of Michigan Law School

Ann Arbor, MI

- Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, May 2007.
- **Michigan Law Review**, Associate Editor.
  - Publication: Note, *Mostly Harmless: An Analysis of Post-AEDPA Federal Habeas Corpus Review of State Court Harmless Error Determinations*, 105 MICH. L. REV. 805 (2007), available at <http://michiganlawreview.org/archive/105/4/jacobi.pdf>.
- **University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform**, Article Editor, Note Editor.
  - Publication: Note, *Two Spirits, Two Eras, Same Sex: For a Traditionalist Perspective on Native American Tribal Same-Sex Marriage Policy*, 39 U. MICH. J.L. REFORM 823 (2006).
- Street Law, Site Coordinator and Web Host; educated adolescents at a juvenile detention center.

### Yale College

New Haven, CT

- Bachelor of Arts, Linguistics, *cum laude*, May 2002.
- Senior thesis: A Linguistic Survey of the Dialect of African American Vernacular English (Ebonics) Spoken in New Haven, Connecticut.
- Mixed Company of Yale University, a cappella singing group.

### Fulbright-Hays Fellowship

Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa

- Studied Zulu language and culture at the University of Pietermaritzburg, summer 2001.
- Lived with urban and rural Zulu families.

### Max Kade Grant, University of Heidelberg

Heidelberg, Germany

- Studied German language and culture, summer 2000.

## LEGAL WORK EXPERIENCE

### Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

San Francisco, CA

*Litigation and Intellectual Property Associate*, Fall 2007-Present

#### Litigation Experience

- First-chaired three misdemeanor jury trials on a four-month secondment at the San Francisco Public Defender, conducting jury selection and direct and cross examination of lay and expert witnesses in cases related to gun possession, DUI, burglary, and theft.
- Second-chaired a nine-day JAMS arbitration of claims involving issues related to real estate financing and contract interpretation before a three-member panel, conducting the cross-examination of accounting witnesses.
- Second-chaired a nine-day California superior court trial of claims related to enforcement of negotiable instruments, conducting direct and cross examination of two key witnesses.
- Second-chaired an eighteen-day AAA arbitration of claims involving issues of securities and professional malpractice before a three-member panel, taking the direct testimony and defending the cross-examination of a significant witness.
- Supported litigation partners as only associate on various matters related to securities (class actions and derivative suits), antitrust, negotiable instruments, trade secrets, insurance coverage, real estate development, real property transactions, landlord-tenant disputes, breach of contract, environmental contamination, trademark and service mark infringement, employment discrimination, professional malpractice, unfair competition, internal investigations, and tribal sovereignty.
- Drafted substantive documents for all phases of litigation, including the pleading stage (complaints, cross-complaints, third-party complaints, answers, demurrers, motions to dismiss, default judgments); discovery (written discovery requests and responses, meet-and-confer letters); motion practice (motions to compel, motions to consolidate, motions for summary judgment, oppositions to motions for class certification); mediation (mediation briefs, settlement agreements); trial (motions in limine, trial briefs, opening and closing statements, examination outlines); and appeal (opening and responding briefs).
- Drafted several briefs filed in matters before the California Courts of Appeal matters (two opening briefs, two reply briefs, and a respondent's brief); and an answering brief filed in the Ninth Circuit.

- Conducted fact investigations and managed e-discovery and records management practices for multiple matters and various clients.
- Questioned witnesses, including experts, at over forty depositions in matters involving insurance coverage, real property transactions, environmental contamination, and landlord-tenant disputes.
- Defended approximately 10 depositions, including expert witnesses, CEOs, accountants, and project managers.
- Appeared at hearings on discovery motions, motions to compel, and motions for trial continuance, as well as numerous case management conferences, settlement conferences, and mediations for both state and federal court matters.
- Communicated with clients in various industries, from internet companies to banks to non-profits, in one-on-one meetings, via telephone, and in writing.
- Structured, negotiated, and drafted settlement agreements for a variety of disputes.
- Litigated several pro bono matters, including defending a contract dispute for non-profit corporation, drafting portions of habeas corpus petition for inmate on death row, and defending indigent tenants in unlawful detainer matters.

#### **Intellectual Property Experience**

- Represented large retail chains, technology, internet, and start-up businesses in connection with trademark and copyright matters.
- Advised clients regarding trademark selection, clearance, and registration.
- Conducted trademark searches and analyses.
- Monitored trademark portfolios for enforcement issues.
- Prosecuted and enforced copyrights and trademarks in the United States and various foreign jurisdictions, including the European Union, Mexico, India, Australia, China, Georgia, and Canada.
- Enforced trademarks in opposition and cancellation proceedings before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board.

#### **Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP**

San Francisco, CA

*Summer Associate, summer 2006*

- Analyzed legal questions and prepared documents for litigation group.
- Assisted in preparations for depositions, trials, and appellate arguments.
- Published *Alcoholic Beverage Distribution Agreements*, in *WINE LAW IN CALIFORNIA: A GROWING INDUSTRY 207* (Cal. Continuing Educ. of the Bar ed., 2006) (co-author).

#### **San Francisco Office of the Public Defender**

San Francisco, CA

*Law Clerk for Misdemeanor Trial Attorney, summer 2005*

- Supported supervising attorney in trial activities for three trials, including voir dire and the examination of witnesses.
- Researched novel legal questions and wrote memoranda and motions.

### **OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE**

#### **Teach For America, San Francisco Unified School District**

San Francisco, CA

*Middle School Teacher, James Lick Middle School, 2002-2004*

- Instructed students with learning handicaps and cognitive impairment in a special education day class.
- Instructed seventh grade students in general education algebra and biology.

**ADMISSIONS:** State of California (December 2007); all Federal District Courts in California; Ninth Circuit.

**AWARDS/RECOGNITION:** 2011 & 2012 Outstanding Volunteer in Public Service Award from Volunteer Legal Services Program of the Bar Association of San Francisco; 2013 Super Lawyers, Rising Stars — Northern California.

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:** Secretary, Board of Directors, AIDS Legal Referral Panel.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS/ACTIVITIES:** Hiking, baking, documentary films.



# Superior Court of California

## County of San Francisco

JEFFREY S. ROSS  
JUDGE

May 29, 2013

National LGBT Bar Association

Re: Nomination of Jeffrey Jacobi for Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40

Dear Committee Members:

I understand that my former colleague Jeffrey Jacobi has been nominated as one of the Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40, and I heartily endorse his selection. Jeff epitomizes the best qualities of a lawyer of any age.

I first met and worked with Jeff when he was a summer associate at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, where I was a partner in the Litigation Section. He researched an issue for a challenging case and accompanied me to court. I was impressed with his intellect and engaging personality and was delighted that he accepted the Firm's invitation to return as an associate.

Upon his arrival in the Fall, 2007, Jeff joined a small team of lawyers working with me as the counsel appointed by the California Supreme Court to represent death-row-inmate James Robinson Jr. to file a petition for *habeas corpus*. The case was the most challenging of my then 32-year legal career. We conducted dozens of interviews, researched myriad legal and factual issues and compiled a voluminous record in support of the petition. We worked 12-hour days, 7 days a week to meet the filing deadline. Later, after receiving the State's Opposition, Jeff worked with me and the team to address all of the issues and to prepare and to file a detailed reply, again supported by volumes of evidence and legal arguments. Jeff's analysis was stellar and his contribution to the final product was extraordinary. Our client and I are indebted to Jeff for his commitment.

In 2009 I was appointed to the Superior Court, but I have remained in close contact with Jeff and a few of the remaining members of the "Robinson Team." While we await the California Supreme Court's ruling on the petition, Jeff continues to visit Mr. Robinson regularly.

During my tenure at Pillsbury, Jeff worked on projects for firm clients for me and for my partners. He was—and is—held in high regard by all of the attorneys with whom he works. Certain partners regularly request Jeff's assistance on cases, preferring him to the many qualified litigation associates.

Jeff, a group of associates and I coached a high school mock trial team and prepared them for the city-wide competition. Jeff's experience as a class room teacher in the San Francisco School District benefited the students and the team. His comfort in working with and guiding the students was evident. He coached the team the following year, after I joined the bench.

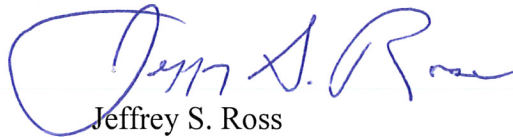
---

Most recently, I had the pleasure of seeing Jeff during his secondment at the Office of the Public Defender. I spoke to those who worked with him and know that they were impressed with his skill and hoped that he would remain with the office, rather than returning to Pillsbury.

I practiced law for 24 years at a small litigation firm and for 10 years at Pillsbury and was fortunate to work with dozens of skilled lawyers. I have been a judge for almost four years and have presided over dozens of trials. Of the lawyers with whom I have worked in all of these contexts, Jeff is among the most accomplished and talented. To achieve so much within six years of law school graduation is remarkable. I hope that your committee agrees with me that Jeff is among the best lawyers under 40.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey S. Ross

---



# SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC DEFENDER

JEFF ADACHI – PUBLIC DEFENDER  
MATT GONZALEZ – CHIEF ATTORNEY



May 31, 2013

## National LGBT Bar Association

1301 K Street, NW, Suite 1100 East Tower  
Washington, DC 20005

**RE: Letter of Support for Jeff Jacobi, "Top LGBT Lawyers Under 40"**

Dear National LGBT Bar Association,

I am writing this letter because I believe that Mr. Jeff Jacobi's strong commitment to justice and skillful work as an attorney make him an excellent candidate for the National LGBT Bar's "Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40."

Mr. Jacobi has worked in the San Francisco Public Defender's Office on two occasions --- first in the summer of 2005 as a law clerk to a misdemeanor trial attorney and most recently from October, 2012 to February, 2013 as a trial attorney on loan from the firm Pillsbury, Withrop, Shaw and Pittman.

The San Francisco Public Defender's office serves the most vulnerable people in San Francisco. All are too poor to afford an attorney. Some are homeless or struggle with mental illness and/or addiction. Mr. Jacobi proved himself a tireless advocate for all of his clients, obtaining positive outcomes while treating them with dignity and respect.

Mr. Jacobi went far beyond the call of duty in helping his clients. In one instance, his client came to the office bruised, intoxicated and in tears. The man, whose case was to go to trial that morning, revealed to Mr. Jacobi that his brother had kicked him out of their shared apartment, triggering his alcoholic relapse. The man had slept on the street the previous night, where he had been beaten and robbed. Mr. Jacobi personally took his client to the VA Hospital across town for detox and treatment, then arranged for the client's parents to temporarily care for him, successfully delaying the trial until his client found some stability.

Mr. Jacobi's clients have benefitted greatly not only from his compassion but also his legal skills. In a burglary trial, jurors acquitted Mr. Jacobi's client in less than 25 minutes after Mr. Jacobi proved that police had failed to properly investigate the case. His client, an innocent man with a newborn child, faced a year in jail if he had been convicted.

Mr. Jacobi is a strong advocate for justice, and LGBT issues are no exception. He serves as secretary on the AIDS Legal Referral Panel Board of Directors, an organization that provides free or low cost legal services to people with HIV/AIDS in the Bay Area. By resolving their legal issues, volunteers like Mr. Jacobi allow their clients to focus on maintaining or improving their health.

**Adult Division - HOJ**  
555 Seventh Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
P: 415.553.1671  
F: 415.553.9810  
[www.sfpublishedefender.org](http://www.sfpublishedefender.org)

**Juvenile Division - YGC**  
375 Woodside Avenue, Rm. 118  
San Francisco, CA 94127  
P: 415.753.7601  
F: 415.566.3030

**Juvenile Division - JJC**  
258A Laguna Honda Blvd.  
San Francisco, CA 94116  
P: 415.753.8174  
F: 415.753.8175

**Clean Slate**  
P: 415.553.9337  
[www.sfpublishedefender.org/services](http://www.sfpublishedefender.org/services)

**Reentry Council**  
P: 415.553.1593  
[www.sfreentry.com](http://www.sfreentry.com)

**Bayview Magic**  
P: 415.558.2428  
[www.bayviewmagic.org](http://www.bayviewmagic.org)

**MoMagic**  
P: 415.563.5207  
[www.momagic.org](http://www.momagic.org)



# SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC DEFENDER

JEFF ADACHI – PUBLIC DEFENDER  
MATT GONZALEZ – CHIEF ATTORNEY



Mr. Jacobi proved himself to be an excellent trial lawyer during his tenure in our office. He was well respected by judges, prosecutors and his colleagues here. He worked hard, and always acted in the best interests of his clients.

Mr. Jacobi is also a team player. He was always willing to go above and beyond the call of duty and volunteered to help his team members whenever coverage was needed. He also took the initiative in thinking of new ways to boost morale. One example is that he regularly provided home-baked goods to the staff.

The San Francisco Public Defender's Office and our clients were extremely fortunate to have benefitted from Mr. Jacobi's work. Without reservation, I would recommend his inclusion in the Top LGBT Lawyers Under 40.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. My phone number is 415-553-9520. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Adachi".

Jeff Adachi  
San Francisco Public Defender

May 21, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:



I am pleased to write a letter of support of the nomination of Jeffrey Jacobi as one of the National LGBT Association's Best 40 LGBT Lawyers under 40 Award.

Jeffrey serves as Secretary on the Board of Directors of the AIDS Legal Referral Panel (ALRP), the nation's oldest organization solely dedicated to addressing the civil legal needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. In the San Francisco Bay Area, HIV is still a disease that impacts disproportionately the LGBT community; one in three gay men in San Francisco is living with HIV. Over eighty percent of ALRP clients are LGBT.

Jeffrey has served on ALRP's Board since the beginning of 2012, and began his service as the Secretary of the Board in the beginning of 2013. His willingness to step into a leadership role with ALRP speaks volumes about his commitment to the agency and its mission, and the diligence with which he performs his board responsibilities. (It should be noted here that several ALRP board members have been nominated for this honor, including Laura Maehtlen and David Tsai, who have been honored by your organization in the recent past. We are proud to be supporting the work of young leaders in the LGBT community.)

ALRP's board members are often young and new to board service. We take very seriously our role to train and mentor board members to guide them in their role as board members and hopefully to set them on a lifetime of service to the community, by becoming leaders on non-profit boards of directors. Jeffrey is a leader. His leadership style may be quieter than some, but he leads by example and he always comes through. He will continue to be a leader in the LGBT community and we will all be the better for his efforts. While Jeffrey is not new to the service of underrepresented groups, he was new to board service and fundraising. He did not shy away from his responsibilities for fundraising. Instead he took the time to understand the role and the tasks required to support the effort and then jumped in. Not only has he secured sponsorships of events from his firm, but he has reached out to many individuals to bring them into the ALRP family. He understands the relationships that need to be developed and fostered. This is why a young aspiring attorney was offered a leadership role with a 30 year old legal services organization.

Jeffrey is a remarkable young man in many ways. His commitment to serving underrepresented communities is reflected in his work with Teach for America, the San Francisco Office of the Public Defender, and the Bar Association of San Francisco. His commitment to working on LGBT issues is reflected in his legal scholarship and his support of LGBT and HIV organizations. Jeffrey has been encouraged by the LGBT partners at Pillsbury to apply for a spot on your list; that he would be so encouraged is no surprise to me. Along with his colleagues, I recognize the many admirable qualities that Jeffrey displays in all his work: his work ethic, his attention to detail, his follow through, and his positive attitude.

ALRP is a small agency, with only seven staff attorneys and a budget of a little more than a million dollars. But we leverage the resources of the private bar through our panel of volunteer attorneys; last year alone our panel provided over 1.4 million dollars of donated legal services. None of this would be possible without the hard work of a team of volunteers who step up as board members to

engage in the often thankless work that keeps our doors open. We have worked diligently over the years to be there for our clients even as their needs have changed through the course of the epidemic. We would not be here but for the work of our board members, who, like Jeffrey, juggle work responsibilities, public service and a personal life, a balancing act that is not easy to maintain. Jeffrey has poured many hours into his ALRP board service. Working with gifted young attorneys like Jeffrey is truly one of the best parts of my job.

I wholeheartedly endorse his nomination. Should you have any questions regarding Jeffrey that I might help address or if you want me to say more nice things about him, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Bill Hirsh  
Executive Director



Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP  
Four Embarcadero Center, Suite 2200 | San Francisco, CA 94111 | tel 415.983.1000 | fax 415.983.1200  
MAILING ADDRESS: P. O. Box 2824 | San Francisco, CA 94126

Thomas V. Loran III  
tel 415.983.1865  
thomas.loran@pillsburylaw.com

May 31, 2013

To whom it may concern:

I am very pleased to write this letter in support of the nomination of Jeffrey Jacobi as one of the National LGBT Association's Best 40 LGBT Lawyers under 40 Award. As I explain below, Jeff is both a remarkable person and a remarkable legal talent, and I am highly and unqualifiedly supportive of his nomination.

By way of background, I have worked at Pillsbury since 1980 and have been a litigation partner at the Firm since 1988. Since 1997, I also have been the Chair of our Firm's Pro Bono Committee. I have known Jeff for the past five-plus years, following the completion of his law school education at University of Michigan and his matriculation to Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLC in San Francisco in the fall of 2007. My life experience with Jeff has been both personal and professional: we have worked on scores of litigation cases together in the past five years and have tried two of those cases together to judgment; and my wife and I are also personal friends with Jeff and have socialized with him at our house and also at Firm functions.

As an advocate, Jeff is one of the most accomplished young attorneys I have ever met in my thirty-three years of private practice. Jeff is an excellent strategist and writer, and his legal analysis is always well considered and well presented.

But more unusual is Jeff's remarkably ability to be a quick study. He has that rare talent to understand and appreciate, almost immediately, the critical relationship between controlling legal principles and the factual record related to a dispute and, in this way, to understand clearly and immediately how best to shape, as an advocate, the presentation of evidence to his client's advantage. Because of Jeff's talent, his work ethic, and the person that he is, I try very hard to get Jeff to work with me on as many of my cases as I can so that my clients can be the beneficiaries of his prodigious legal abilities.

But Jeff's most enduring (and, for me, most endearing) quality is revealed in the bedrock of his personality: Jeff's personal commitment to the service of others in both his community activities as well as in his work for the pro bono clients of our Firm. Jeff's



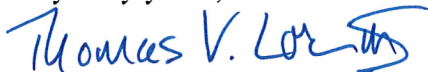
To whom it may concern  
May 31, 2013  
Page 2

commitment to others is evident in everything that Jeff does, and it has always been this way with him:

- Jeff has served on the Board of the ALRP in SF;
- Jeff has been involved in Teach for America;
- Jeff has been seconded by our Firm to work at the San Francisco Office of the Public Defender, where his zeal and amazing advocacy prevented a miscarriage of justice and was the subject of a press release by the SF Public Defender Jeff Adachi;
- Jeff works as a pro bono volunteer for the Bar Association of San Francisco; and
- Jeff has been involved in some of the most critical pro bono matters being handled by our Firm – the post-conviction representation of condemned prisoner James Robinson; coaching the Balboa High School Mock Trial Team; and our long-standing residential eviction defense practice developed in Pillsbury's San Francisco office.

In Jeff Jacobi, the National LGBT Association has an opportunity to recognize the talent and demonstrated commitment to social responsibility of a truly remarkable person under the age of 40 working in the legal profession. Please consider contacting me by phone or in-person to discuss Jeff and his personal and professional accomplishments. I cannot think of a more deserving candidate for this honor.

Very truly yours,



Thomas V. Loran III



EAST BAY  
COMMUNITY  
LAW CENTER

2921 Adeline Street, Berkeley, CA 94703  
t 510.548.4040 f 510.845.2305 www.ebclc.org

May 29, 2013

The National LGBT Bar Association  
1301 K Street NW, Suite 1100, East Tower  
Washington, DC 20005  
[Nominations@LGBTbar.org](mailto:Nominations@LGBTbar.org)

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to submit this letter of support on behalf of my friend and former colleague, Jeffrey Jacobi. I am currently a Staff Attorney and Clinical Instructor at the East Bay Community Law Center ("EBCLC") in Berkeley, California. We are the largest provider of free legal services in the East Bay and also one of Berkeley Law's clinical offerings. I direct the Elev8 Legal Services Project, which provides free legal services to students and their families on-site at five low-income, public middle schools in Oakland, California.

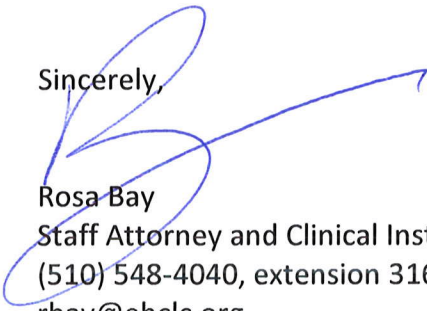
Before working at EBCLC, I was a litigation associate at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP in San Francisco for two years. During that time, I worked closely with Jeff on several matters and can honestly say without hesitation, that he is one of the most skilled advocates I have ever seen. He's incredibly bright, and he works incredibly hard. Because of this, Jeff was the "go to" associate for several partners at Pillsbury. Jeff was often the only associate staffed on a case. Partners knew that Jeff would take ownership over any task or matter delegated to him and that he could be relied on to produce quality work product every time. His work earned him praise from even the most difficult, exacting partners at the firm. Early on in his legal career, Jeff was given opportunities to take depositions, argue motions and even to second-chair trials because he proved himself to be a capable advocate and never shied away from a challenge.

Jeff is not just a good lawyer—he's a good person. Jeff is committed to social justice. He believes in equality, especially for the LGBT community of which he is a proud member. While he was in law school, Jeff published a Note in the *University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform* on Native American tribal same-sex marriage policy. He argued that tribal policy, which trended towards more restrictive opposite-sex-couple marriage definitions, conflicted with both traditional tribal values and historical tribal law, both of which in many North American tribes allowed same-sex unions, and that tribes should return to the historical acceptance of same-sex couples.

Jeff also serves on the Board of Directors for the AIDS Legal Referral Panel ("ALRP") in San Francisco. He is actively involved in fundraising for ALRP and has handled *pro bono* matters for its clients. In addition, while I was at Pillsbury, Jeff lobbied for more inclusiveness at the firm. At the time, there was only a small affinity group for LGBT partners, counsel, and associates. Because of Jeff's efforts, however, he is now on a planning committee to create the first-ever Pillsbury LGBT non-partner and staff affinity group.

I'm extremely proud of Jeff and all that he's accomplished in his career thus far. Jeff has a huge heart. He's always stayed true to himself and stands up for the things he believes in. I truly feel lucky to know him and to call him my friend. There is no one more well-deserving of this honor than Jeff, and I highly recommend him. I'm happy to discuss Jeff's application further with you at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Rosa Bay  
Staff Attorney and Clinical Instructor  
(510) 548-4040, extension 316  
[rbay@ebclc.org](mailto:rbay@ebclc.org)





May 28, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

My former colleague, Jeffrey Jacobi, has asked me to submit this letter of support on his behalf for consideration as one of the National LGBT Association's Best 40 LGBT Lawyers under 40 Award, which I am pleased and honored to do. I am a Senior Competition Counsel at Visa and oversee various antitrust and competition law matters arising from our global electronic payments business. Before working at Visa, I was an attorney at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP for seven years in the Litigation Group. While at Pillsbury, I was very fortunate to work closely with Jeff.

It almost goes without saying that Jeff is an excellent lawyer. He displays the attributes that great lawyers have. He is smart, diligent, creative and conscientious. He is a dedicated advocate. He handles his clients with skill and ease. He never shies away from a tough case or assignment and readily works the long hours needed to build a successful legal career. But, Jeff is, of course, much more than an excellent lawyer. He is a genuine person who lives what he believes and presses others to recognize and respect the value that other people have, despite their differences.

Jeff is committed to equality and fairness. The first matter I worked on with Jeff was while he was a summer associate and for an organization that had viewpoints that were unpopular with a large segment of the public and with which Jeff likely disagreed. However, Jeff quickly accepted the assignment because the matter involved issues of fairness, regardless of viewpoint. This commitment to ensuring fundamental fairness and equality runs deep and is readily seen through his pro bono work at the firm. He has represented numerous clients facing unfair and retaliatory evictions, who would otherwise face an unlevel playing field. He represents a client on death row who was wrongly deprived of his constitutional right to a fair trial. Through his pro bono work, Jeff aspires to ensure fairness and provide a voice for those who might otherwise be ignored or have their rights impugned.

Jeff's commitment to equality has long included advocacy for LGBT equality. Even during law school, his publication in the *University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform* advocated for a movement toward traditional tribal policy and historical tribal law among Native Americans that recognized and accepted same-sex couples. Jeff serves as an officer and on the Board of Directors of the AIDS Legal Referral Panel (ALRP), whose impact and importance within the LGBT community cannot be overstated. He is young for such important roles in ALRP – a clear recognition of his leadership and contributions in the LGBT community. Jeff is also a strong voice for LGBT issues at the firm. He is, for example, working to form an LGBT group for non-partner attorneys and staff to ensure LGBT issues are raised and recognized at the firm. His efforts are important to the LGBT community at Pillsbury. But, perhaps equally important, they create a much broader impact by raising issues and concerns that are common to

Page 2

many others and promote those ideals that we should be striving to achieve for everyone – respect, dignity and decency. What Jeff does to promote and exemplify those ideals is one of the reasons that I was honored to have Jeff as a colleague and am now more honored to call him a friend.

I whole-heartedly believe that Jeff would be an excellent choice for this honor, and I recommend him without reservation. I would be pleased to discuss his application further with you at any time.

Sincerely,



Ryan Takemoto  
Senior Competition Counsel  
rtakemot@visa.com  
+65 6671 5398