



950 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Room 7145, Washington, DC 20530 • www.dojpride.org

June 3, 2013

Dear LGBT Bar Association:

I write to nominate John Elias as one of the Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40. John is a colleague and friend who has demonstrated both an uncommon commitment to the cause of LGBT equality and excellence in the discipline of antitrust.

I have worked with John since 2008 on the board of directors of DOJ Pride. John has served in a number of capacities, including as Treasurer and, most recently, as Secretary. He has worked tirelessly to see that DOJ's LGBT employees experience equality inclusion to the maximum extent permitted by current law. He was the initial drafter of a number eloquent and persuasive letters to Department management on matters of concern to LGBT employees, including as to the impact on employee morale of positions the Department has taken in litigation at various points in time. His advocacy has helped ensure that LGBT employees are increasingly visible at the Department. At an LGBT inclusion training attended by senior management from across the Department, John raised his hand and offered such a cogent off-the-cuff explanation of disparities in employment benefits that his manager, an ally, later asked whether the comment had been prearranged.

When I made John aware of TransLAW's Name and Gender Change Clinic, offered in conjunction with Whitman-Walker Health, he instantly seized on the opportunity to volunteer. Through this clinic, he has assisted members of the trans community in obtaining identification that reflects their preferred name or includes the proper gender marker. In his role as Secretary of DOJ Pride, John publicized the clinic and helped recruit additional volunteers to further its important work.

I understand that John is also very active in Stanford Pride, the university's LGBT alumni affinity group. As the group's President, he works to ensure that Stanford University is a model institution on LGBT issues and works to create a vibrant LGBT alumni network. Each year, Stanford Pride funds two undergraduate summer internships at LGBT organizations through its sponsorship of the Huffington Pride Fellowship. This summer's fellows will work at Equality California and the Transgender Law Center. It is a testament to the depth of John's commitment to LGBT equality that his efforts run so deep at multiple organizations.

John's record in the field of antitrust is similarly impressive. In 2011, he received an Assistant Attorney General Award as a member of the team that established, through litigation, the availability of a disgorgement remedy under the Sherman Act. The victory also led to the payment of \$12 million to the United States Treasury as remedy for an anticompetitive derivative contract. John now serves as a

Special Assistant to the Directors of Civil and Criminal Enforcement, a coveted post that entails close work with the Antitrust Division's highest ranking career civil employee and a similar manager on the criminal side. There, he works to ensure that his Division's actions meet the high standards expected of the Department's work.

John's record makes him a worthy candidate, and I hope you give him your highest consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marc Salans", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Marc Salans
President, DOJ Pride