



ACLU of WI Will Support State's Domestic Partner Registry

Same-sex Couples Will Show Registry is Not Marriage

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MILWAUKEE, WI – The ACLU of Wisconsin will continue its work to ensure that same-sex couples maintain the basic protections provided in the state's new domestic partnership registry.

"We expected a challenge to the registry in a lower court," said Chris Ahmuty, ACLU of Wisconsin's executive director. "We're fully prepared to help defend the state's registry so that same-sex couples in Wisconsin can have access to the basic, although limited, legal rights their families need."

The ACLU of Wisconsin supported the defense of the state's domestic partnership registry in 2009 when an earlier challenge was filed by Wisconsin Family Action in the state Supreme Court. The Wisconsin Supreme Court dismissed the complaint in November 2009. This week Wisconsin Family Action filed a new challenge in the Dane County court which could allow both sides to have a trial and present evidence to support their cases.

"While the Wisconsin Family Action and the Alliance Defense Fund will attempt to compare the domestic partnership registry to the legal definition of marriage," Ahmuty continued, "same-sex couples will seek to demonstrate a factual record of how the protections offered by the registry are quite limited and in no way violate the marriage ban."

For more of our recent work on LGBT rights, [visit the issues section of our website](#).

The ACLU of Wisconsin has approximately 8,500 members who support its efforts to defend the civil liberties and civil rights of all Wisconsin residents. For more on the work of the ACLU of Wisconsin, visit our [webpage](#). You can also get news and opinion on civil liberties in Wisconsin on our [Cap City Liberty blog](#). Find us on [Facebook and Twitter at ACLUMadison and ACLUofWisconsin](#).

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