



PRESS ADVISORY - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARRIAGE EQUALITY USA URGES FEDERAL COURT TO RELEASE PROP. 8 TRIAL VIDEOTAPES

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San Francisco: On Monday, August 29 at 9:00 am at the United States District Court (450 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco), same-sex couples and myriad news outlets will ask Chief Judge James Ware to allow public access to the video tapes of the historic trial in which the district court held that Proposition 8 violates the United States Constitution.

"Last year, the district court conducted a 12 day trial where anyone and everyone had the opportunity to present evidence about Proposition 8. The court concluded in an extraordinarily detailed 136 page opinion that the opponents of marriage equality had produced not even a scintilla of evidence that could justify Prop. 8's exclusion of loving, committed same-sex couples from marriage," said John Lewis, Marriage Equality USA's Legal Director.

"Yet, marriage equality opponents continue to try to litigate the issue and keep the real facts away from the American people. It's time for the video tapes of the trial to be made public so that the public can hear firsthand the testimony of lesbian and gay couples about the devastating harm that Proposition 8 causes their families," said Lewis.

"The marriage equality movement is about the coming out of our relationships and our families – the truth of our lives. Marriage equality opponents seek at the same time to silence our families and silence the trial evidence in this case. Let the tapes come out and speak for themselves," said Stuart Gaffney, Marriage Equality USA's Media Director.

Founded in 2000, Marriage Equality USA® is a national grassroots organization whose mission is to secure legally-recognized civil marriage equality for all, at the federal and state level, without regard to gender identity or sexual orientation. For more information go to www.marriageequality.org. Follow us on Twitter @meusa. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/marriageequalityusa.