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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH **CENTRAL DIVISION**

JONELL EVANS, et al.  Plaintiffs  v.	DECLARATION OF STACIA IRELAND
STATE OF UTAH, et al., Defendants.	Case No. 2:14-cv-55 DAK

## STACIA IRELAND declares, deposes and states:

I am an adult resident of Salt Lake County and the State of Utah. I make this declaration based upon personal knowledge except for those matters set forth herein based on information and belief. If called to testify in this matter, I would testify as follows:

- I am 60 years old. I have been in a committed relationship with JoNell Evans, for
   13 years.
- 2. I taught math to junior high and high school students for 30 years. I am now semiretired, but work part-time at a community college helping students with disabilities.
- 3. I have lived in Utah my entire adult life. The home I share with JoNell is on land that has been in JoNell's family for generations and a lot of our family lives in the same neighborhood as we do.
- 4. In 2007 JoNell and I affirmed our commitment to each other with a religious marriage ceremony at the Unitarian Church in Salt Lake City. Our commitment was not recognized by the State of Utah.
- 5. In 2009 JoNell and I had wills and medical powers of attorney drawn up. We knew other same-sex couples who had been treated as legal strangers by hospitals, and we wanted to prevent this from happening to us, should either of us be hospitalized.
- 6. In 2010 I suffered a heart attack. JoNell had to look for our papers before we left.

  Once at the hospital, JoNell was able to stay by my side, but she was not treated as if she were my spouse.
- On December 20, 2013, JoNell learned of the *Kitchen* decision. She rushed to the Salt Lake County building and called me to meet her there. After JoNell waited in line for a few hours, I joined her and a little while later we finally received our marriage license. Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker solemnized our marriage that day. While we were surrounded by joyous friends and other couples, our families were not able to attend.
  - 8. On January 1, 2014, JoNell again had to rush me to the emergency room because

I was experiencing severe chest pains. Prior to our visit, I had informed the hospital that we had been married and during our stay in the hospital. This time JoNell was afforded all the courtesies and rights given to the married spouse of a patient. For example, the hospital allowed her to sign paperwork for me and consulted with her on all aspects of my treatment.

9. On the day after Governor Herbert directed State agencies to no longer recognize the marriages of same-sex couples in Utah, I had to return to the hospital for a follow-up procedure. We again have to face uncertainty and anxiety that the hospital would treat JoNell like a non-entity instead of my spouse.

10. I now worry that during any future emergency hospital visits, and even during routine care, we will no longer be afforded the same protections as other married couples.

DATED this day of February 2014.

STACIA IRELAND

## **DECLARATION**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I, STACIA IRELAND, hereby declare that the contents of the foregoing Declaration are correct and true under the pains and penalties of perjury.

STACIA IRELAND