

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

WHITEWOOD et al.,

Plaintiffs,

Civil Action

v.

No. 13-1861-JEJ

WOLF et al.,

Defendants.

DECLARATION OF ANGELA GILLEM

- I, Angela Gillem, declare as follows:
- 1. I am a 61-year-old Pennsylvania resident. I am a clinical psychologist and professor at Arcadia University outside Philadelphia, where I have worked since 1993.
- 2. I submit this declaration in support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Summary Judgment in the matter of *Whitewood et al. v. Wolf et al.* to briefly describe why I want the Commonwealth to recognize my marriage to my wife, Gail Lloyd, and to explain how the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's refusal to recognize our marriage robs our relationship of the status and legitimacy accorded to others' relationships and causes us economic harm.
- 3. I grew up outside of Washington, D.C. and moved to Pennsylvania in 1986. Gail and I met in 1994, when we were introduced by a friend. We began

dating a couple of years later and moved in together in 1997. Gail is an artist and I was drawn to her from the moment we met. I was – and still am – impressed with the intensity with which she focuses her attention on whomever she is talking to at the time. She makes you feel like you are the most important person in the world. My appreciation and admiration for her has only grown over the years we have been together.

- 4. We love doing things together, whether it is watching a film, traveling, visiting museums, eating out at restaurants, or reading. A photo of us on a trip to Long Island, produced in this litigation as GILLEMLLOYD000129, is attached as Exhibit PX-19-A. A photo of us out to dinner with friends, produced in this litigation as GILLEMLLOYD000126, is attached as Exhibit PX-19-B.
- 5. Gail and I were married in the District of Columbia on November 18, 2013, with my brother and Gail's mother and brother as witnesses. A redacted copy of our Certificate of Marriage, produced in this litigation as GILLEMLLOYD000117, is attached hereto as Exhibit PX-19-C. We had spoken of marrying for a long time, but it did not seem that it could be a reality until after the Supreme Court's decision in June, striking down the federal Defense of Marriage Act.
- 6. Before being married in the District of Columbia, we tried to obtain a marriage license in Pennsylvania, our home. On July 1, 2013, we went to the

office of the Register of Wills and Clerk of Orphans' Court of Bucks County to apply for a marriage license. Gail stepped up to the counter and asked for an application for a marriage license and the clerk asked if her fiancé was present. When Gail pointed to me, the clerk said she could not give us a license, but asked us to wait. After a few minutes she brought back a supervisor, who said that they were sorry, but that the law forbade them from giving us a license, and that they would be happy to do it if the law changed. They were very kind, but while we were waiting another couple – a man and woman – stepped up to the counter and were given an application to fill out, no questions asked. That made me feel like a second class citizen in my home state.

- 7. We would have much preferred to marry in Pennsylvania, but did not know when we would be able to, and decided that we could not wait. The fact that the federal government recognizes our marriage affords us greater financial and legal security in certain areas of our lives. This year we will pay less in federal income tax because of being able to file our federal income taxes jointly, and I have been able to use my flexible spending account to pay for Gail's medical expenses because we are married.
- 8. It has always been a concern for me that we could not marry, and, now, that our marriage is not recognized by the Commonwealth. Gail is an artist, so she does not draw a steady paycheck or contribute to Social Security. Because

of that, I have taken every step I can to ensure her financial security in the event that I were to die or otherwise be unable to work. We registered as Life Partners with the City of Philadelphia in August 2002 so that I could add Gail to my health insurance plan at work, and we have spent hundreds of dollars to have wills and powers of attorney drawn up in order to duplicate, where possible, the protections that would be automatic if our marriage were recognized. A true and correct copy of our Philadelphia Certificate of Life Partnership, produced in this litigation as GILLEMLLOYD000001, is attached hereto as Exhibit PX-19-D.

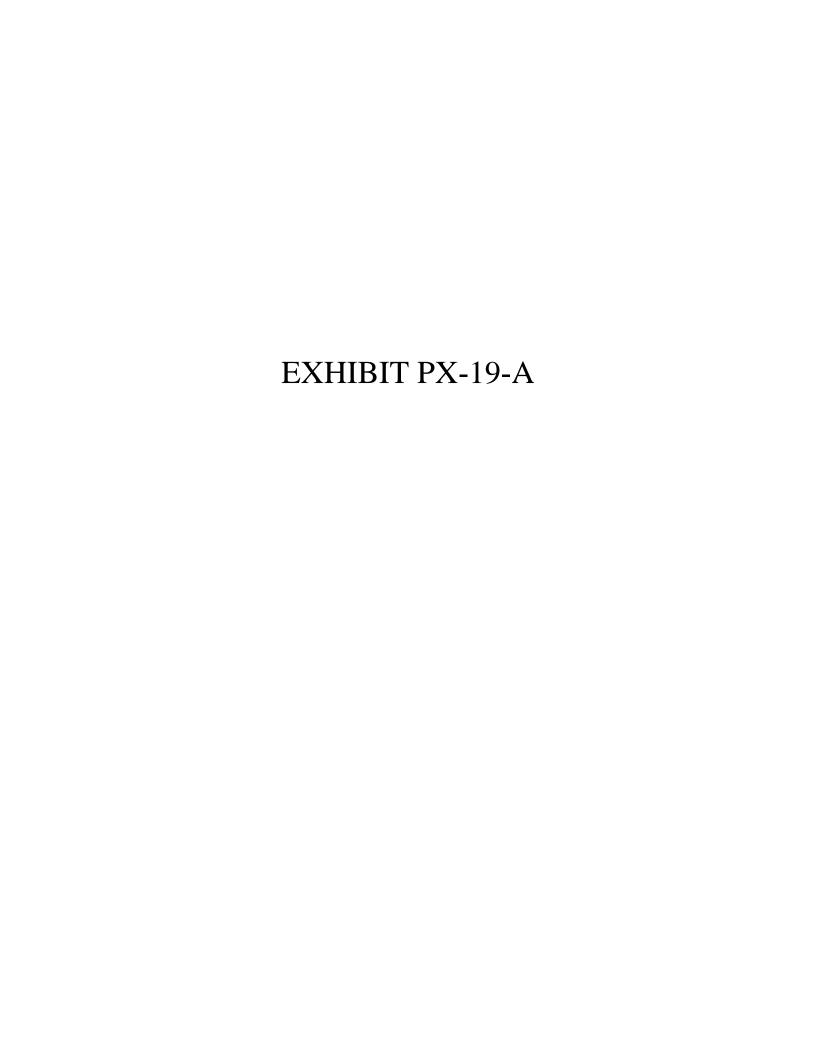
9. But it is simply not possible to duplicate all of the financial and legal protections that married couples receive and I still worry about Gail's financial security should I die first. I know, for instance, that if I die, Gail will have to pay the Commonwealth inheritance tax of fifteen percent on half of the value of our home and joint bank accounts, and there is no agreement or document we can prepare that will change that. We have been advised that when one of us dies, the other could owe over \$100,000 in taxes to the Commonwealth. And Pennsylvania's refusal to recognize our marriage might mean that Gail cannot collect my Social Security benefits if I die first. I live every day with the fear that the steps I have taken will not be enough to protect Gail if something should happen to me.

- 10. Besides the financial benefits, it simply feels right to be married and to finally be able to celebrate and acknowledge the relationship Gail and I have had for 18 years. And it hurts when we cannot do that.
- 11. This year we could file our federal tax return as a married couple, but have to identify ourselves as single on our Pennsylvania returns. I want us to be able to file our Pennsylvania income taxes as the married couple that we are. Checking the "Single" box feels dishonest, and like a denial of my relationship with Gail.
- 12. If Gail or I were to die in Pennsylvania, where we live, I would want our respective death certificates to reflect our status as married and for the survivor to be listed as the surviving spouse on the other's death certificate. I understand that, as the law stands today, that would not happen. That is another way that the Commonwealth denies and disrespects our relationship.
- 13. I make this declaration from my own knowledge of the facts and circumstances set forth above. If necessary, I could and would testify to these facts and circumstances.

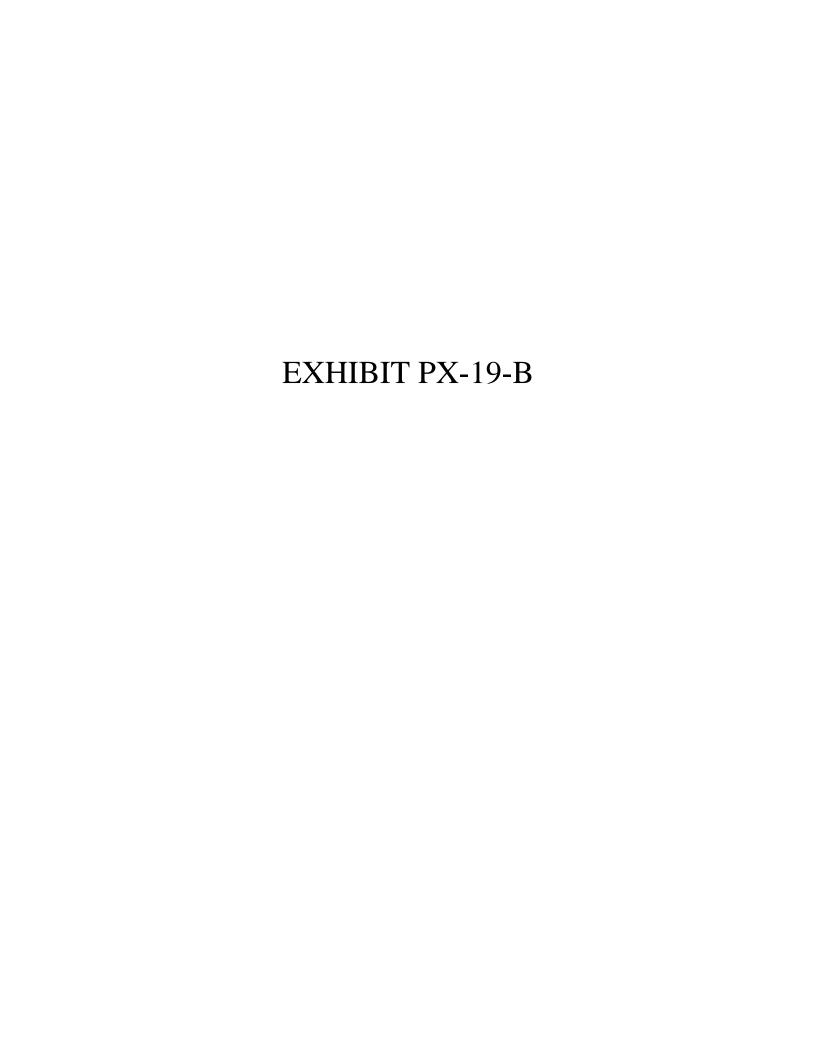
I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: $\frac{4/\sqrt{5}/\sqrt{9}}{\sqrt{5}}$

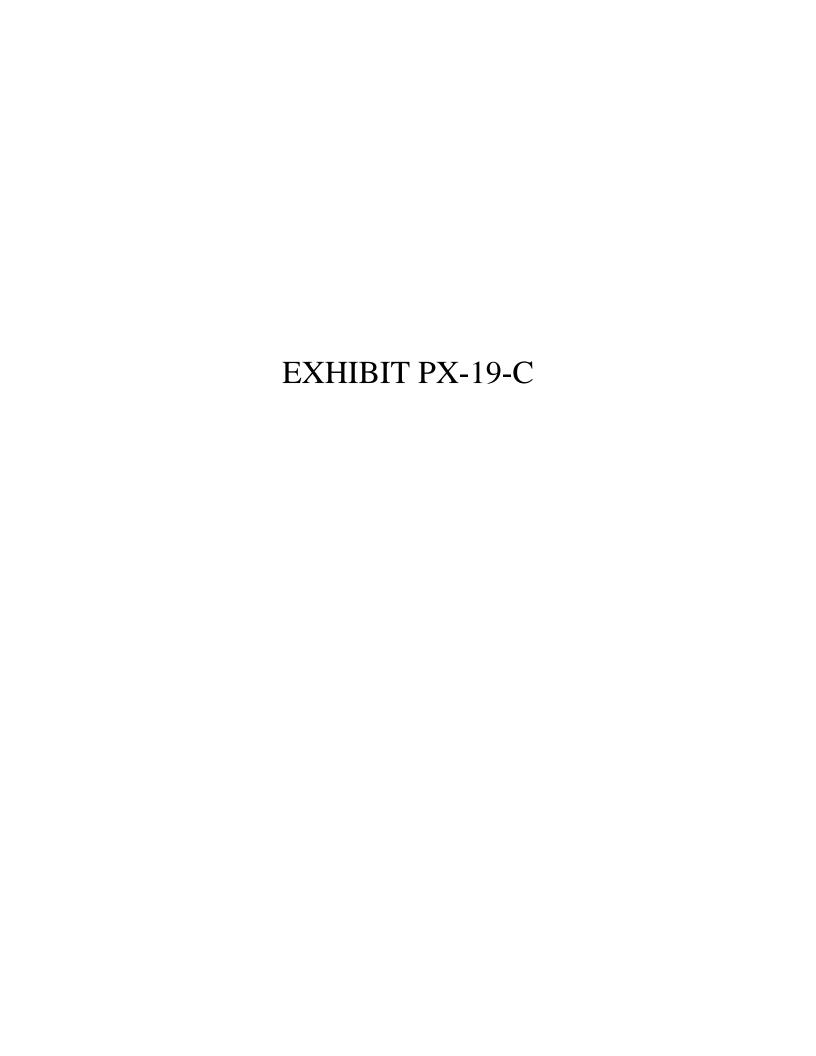
Angela Gillem













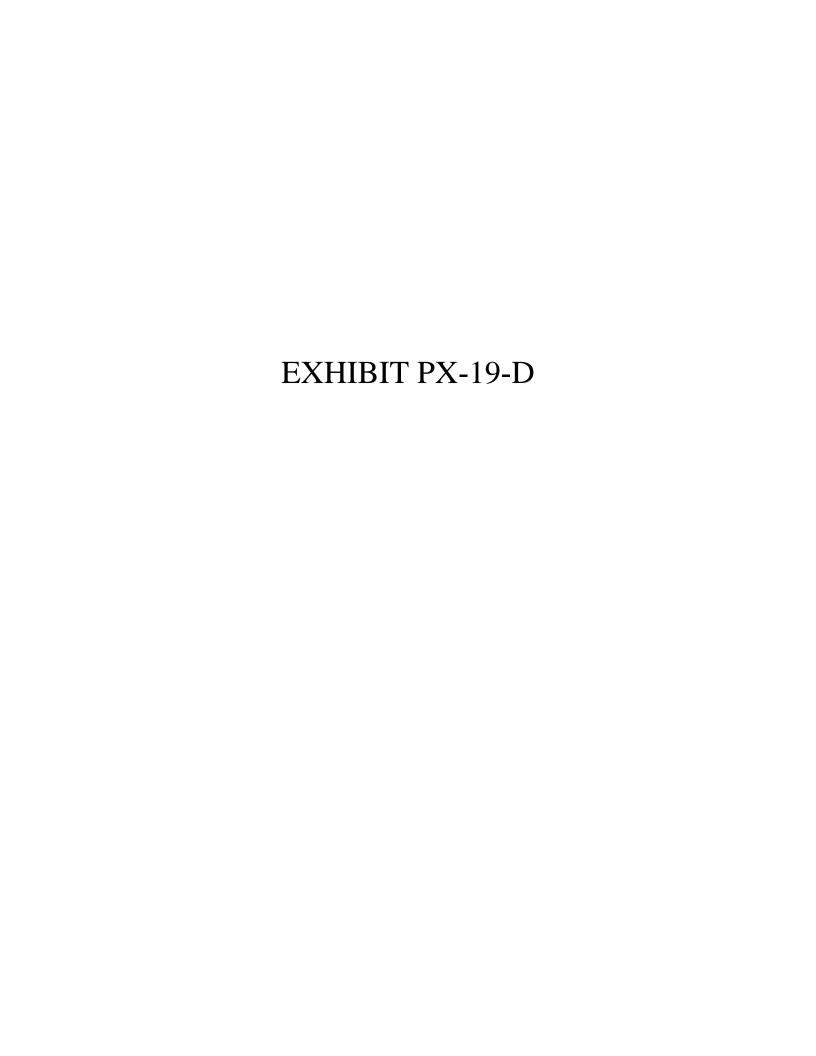
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MARRIAGE BUREAU

Certificate of Marriage

License No.

2013 MAS 023316

	and
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n of the same to the Clerk's Office of the Superior Court o	of the District of Columbia within TEN days
ness my hand and the seal of said Court this	18 November 2013
Clerk of the Court,	
¥ 7_	
Deputy Clerk Lance Richardson	1
, who have been duly authorized to cele	ebrate the rites of marriage in the District o
1se of corresponding number herewith solemnized or with	essed the Marriage of the parties aforesaid
	W.A.
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I was like	
Signature of the Officiant PARTS A AN	D B MUST HAVE ORIGINAL SIGNATURE.
WILMA BRIER	
	Deputy Clerk , who have been duly authorized to cele se of corresponding number herewith solemnized or witner 300 INDIANA AVE., N.W., WASHINGTON, DC 2



Certificate of

Life Partnership

This certifies that

Gail M. Lloyd & Angela R. Gillem

have been approved by the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations as Life Partners on the 13th of August, 2002.



James S. Allen, Sr., Chair
Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations





