

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 RONALD GEBHARDTSBAUER

- I, Ronald Gebhardtsbauer, declare as follows:
- 1. I am 61 years old and live in State College, Pennsylvania with my husband Greg Wright. I am an actuary and professor of actuarial science at Penn State University.
- 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 the importance of marriage to me and how the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's refusal to recognize my marriage is stigmatizing and hurtful.
- 3. I have lived with Gregory Wright since 1994. Greg and I married in Rockville, Maryland in November 2013 because we are madly in love with each other. Greg is my best friend and we have a wonderful, happy life together. I want my marriage to be recognized in Pennsylvania.

- 4. I have reviewed the Declaration of Gregory Wright, which was also made in support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Summary Judgment. That declaration is accurate, and I agree with Greg's statements in his declaration.
- 5. I agree that Pennsylvania's non-recognition of my marriage disrespects and devalues my love for Greg and the commitment that we have made to each other.
- 6. Like Greg, I want to be able to declare myself as "Married" on my Pennsylvania income tax return. I am married to Greg, so checking the "Single" box feels wrong.
- 7. Because of my professional experience with Social Security, I also know that, unless Pennsylvania law changes, if I were to die while still a Pennsylvania resident, the Social Security Administration would use Pennsylvania's definition of marriage and would therefore not provide Greg with access to my social security benefits, which will be larger than Greg's. If Pennsylvania recognized our marriage, Greg would receive this benefit.
- 8. Like Greg, when he and I die, I want our death certificates to reflect our marriage. And, like Greg, I worry about the effect of the Pennsylvania inheritance tax on his financial wellbeing if I were to die first.

9. 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: April 15, 2014

Ronald Gebhardtsbauer