

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 SANDRA FERLANIE

- I, Sandra Ferlanie, declare as follows:
- 1. I am 46 years old, a Pennsylvania resident, and a trained nurse working on drug safety for Merck.
- 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 allow me to marry Christine relegates us and our five-year-old son H. F. to second-class citizenship.
- 3. I have been in a relationship with Christine Donato for 17 years.

 Christine and I, together with our son H.F., live in Swarthmore. Christine and I want to marry and publicly declare our love for each other but the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania bars us from marrying.

- 4. I have reviewed the Declaration of Christine Donato, which was also made in support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Summary Judgment. That declaration is accurate, and I agree with Christine's statements in her declaration.
- 5. I agree that Pennsylvania's refusal to allow me to marry Christine disrespects and devalues our relationship and our family and makes us and our son second-class citizens.
- 6. Like Christine, I feel that the second-parent adoption process that we were required to go through so that Christine's parental rights to H. F. would be recognized was humiliating.
- 7. Like Christine I worry whether, in a medical emergency, especially if we did not have our health care powers of attorney with us, each of us would be allowed to receive health care information and make medical decisions for the other.
- 8. Like Christine, I worry about the effect of the Pennsylvania inheritance tax on the survivor's financial well-being if one of us were to die.
- 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 18, 2014

Sandra Ferlanie