

Attorneys Rally Around High Court's Gay Marriage Decision

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Law360, New York (June 26, 2015, 7:18 PM ET) -- From BigLaw to boutiques, lawyers were united in their praise for the [U.S. Supreme Court](#)'s landmark 5-4 decision Friday in favor of same-sex marriage, with many calling it a victory for humanity.

They applauded the court for making the union 'a little more perfect' while reflecting on what a long struggle it has been for gay couples nationwide to gain full acceptance in the eyes of the law. They acknowledged the same-sex battles that still lie ahead, especially on the employment front, but also spoke of the compassion and understanding that Justice Kennedy's opinion revealed.

Here, (**Godwin Lewis**) attorneys tell Law360 why the decision in Obergefell et al. v. Hodges et al. is a watershed moment.

W. Ira Bowman, [Godwin Lewis PC](#)



“The Obergefell decision reinforced the Supreme Court's equality of power under checks and balances with the legislative branch in protecting the rights of individuals under the umbrella of the Constitution. The court's distinction between the political sphere's democratic process and the courts' judicial process provides two discrete paths to protection of liberties under the Constitution. In its decision, the Supreme Court exercised its power to redress injuries to individuals denied of their fundamental rights. The political

gridlock of the issue set up the court's reasoning to cut the Gordian knot and ultimately rule in favor of liberty, happiness and love.”

R. Alan York, Godwin Lewis PC



“Today's opinion in Obergefell v. Hodges is not the result of any one person or organization. It is not the result of a crafty legal strategy or a single voice. It is the result of a determined and focused community refusing to accept second-class status. It is a result of the members of that community and its supporters standing up and saying, ‘We will be treated as equals. The Constitution guarantees us nothing more, but we will accept nothing less.’ Today is a great victory for all Americans who believe in equality under the law.”

--Editing by Mark Lebetkin.