



Dear Pennsylvania Bar Association Member,

The Pennsylvania Bar Association's GLBT Rights Committee is pleased to announce that we are currently receiving nominations for the annual David M. Rosenblum GLBT Public Policy Award. The award will be presented during the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Annual Meeting at the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square in Lancaster, PA, May 15-17, 2019.

Information about the candidate criteria and a nomination form are available here: <http://www.pabar.org/public/committees/GLB01/DMRaward.asp>. However, it is important that we also share with you information about the individual after whom this award is named, in order to more fully describe the qualities that are desired for nominees for this award.

David Michael Rosenblum (1966-2014) represented the epitome of a public policy leader in promoting GLBT legal equality with representatives of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of federal and state government.

Prior to becoming legal director at Mazzoni Center in Philadelphia, he was an award-winning advocate and trial lawyer for federal and state antidiscrimination agencies. At Mazzoni Center, he directed its legal services program, providing or overseeing the provision of legal services to low-income GLBT individuals in need – from assisting in estate planning to fighting employment discrimination.

Under David's direction, Mazzoni Center filed the first claim with the EEOC Philadelphia Regional Office asserting protection for a transgender employee under Title VII's sex discrimination provision.

His effects also reached the judiciary. Aside from ongoing litigation, he worked with judges and other local activists to spearhead training for Philadelphia judges and court staff to ensure cultural competency when interacting with people who are transgender. At his death, he was working with the GLBT Rights Committee to expand the program statewide.

David also advocated for LGBT equality through legislation and administrative rules. He worked with Philadelphia lawmakers to pass the city's 2013 landmark LGBT equality law, which included a mix of antidiscrimination protections and tax incentives for equality-minded businesses. He helped to persuade the officials charged with implementing Pennsylvania's voter identification laws to cease the use of gender markers on voter identification cards, removing that potential barrier to transgender voters.

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David took great efforts to educate lawyers and the public, as well as connect businesses with young GLBT job applicants, specifically with the creation of the first-ever GLBT career fair when he chaired the 2002 Lavender Law Conference.

The efforts to advance the causes David championed are far from over, but are carried on by individuals around the world, every day. Thus, through this award, the Pennsylvania Bar Association GLBT Rights Committee hopes to honor leading luminaries who use their ingenuity to advance equality in the law for the GLBT community and continue to encourage them and others in their endeavors.

The award was established in 2015, and a list of previous winners can be found at the following link: <http://www.pabar.org/public/committees/GLB01/DMRaward.asp>

The 2019 nomination form with the criteria is attached. Submissions received no later than March 31, 2019 will be considered. Please feel free to contact the GLBT Rights Committee staff person, Ursula Marks, if you have a question about the process. Her e-mail address is [Ursula.Marks@pabar.org](mailto:Ursula.Marks@pabar.org). Her phone number and facsimile number are 1-800-932-0311 ext. 2206 and 717-238-7182.

Please consider nominating a leader you know.

Sincerely,

Gerald L. Shoemaker, Jr., Chair  
PBA GLBT Rights Committee