

For immediate release
Wednesday, October 25, 2006

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New Jersey Same-Sex Marriage Ruling an Economic Boon Gay Media Leaders Applaud Milestone

Sue O'Connell, president of the National Gay Newspaper Guild, an association of America's top gay and lesbian media, hailed the landmark New Jersey ruling today:

"As leaders in gay media, we know from our experience that same-sex marriage is a milestone of hope, equality and opportunity for the gay community everywhere. As a Massachusetts business, too, we also know it represents a significant plus for our economy. In our newspaper business alone, our advertising increased 18% when our state adopted same-sex marriage. Within the first weeks, mainstream businesses and community leaders voted with their dollars to welcome our marriages and our families. New Jersey citizens will see us as equals in respect and value, as they do in Massachusetts."

O'Connell also insisted that it is "not just about dollars and cents, however, the economic ripple effect of decisions like these ultimately resonate with many business-minded leaders who acknowledge that all households deserve respect. Our readers will support businesses that support us."

O'Connell also is co-publisher of Bay Windows, the weekly newspaper of Boston, Massachusetts, serving the entire community on GLBT news, issues and entertainment. Other leading publications that are members of the National Gay Newspaper Guild (www.nationalgaynewspaperguild.com) include: Windy City Times (Chicago), New York Blade, Frontiers (Los Angeles), Philadelphia Gay News, Between The Lines (Detroit), Dallas Voice, Southern Voice (Atlanta), Bay Area Reporter (San Francisco), Gay & Lesbian Times (San Diego), Washington Blade (Washington DC) and Express Gay News (South Florida). Collectively, the Guild newspapers reach more than one million LGBT readers across America.

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