

Same-sex weddings are still on hold

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Article Launched: 10/28/2008 02:43:46 AM EDT
Wedding bells won't start ringing for Connecticut's same-sex couples until sometime next month.

It has been uncertain when the state Supreme Court's Oct. 10 ruling will take effect, and when couples can start applying for marriage licenses.

"At this point, what we expect is that the earliest will be Nov. 10," said Carisa Cunningham, a spokeswoman for Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, a Boston group that in 2004 filed a lawsuit on behalf of eight lesbian and gay couples in an attempt to overturn Connecticut's same-sex marriage ban. "Things are still up in air."

Today, the Supreme Court's decision will become final. After 10 days, the Supreme Court will then officially remand the case to state Superior Court in New Haven, where the case was originally heard.

That court will then issue orders to town clerks and the commissioner of the state Department of Public Health, state Attorney General Richard Blumenthal said.

"We'll probably know more tomorrow, but that's as much as we know right now," Blumenthal said Monday.

Stamford Town Clerk Donna Loglisci said a few people have called her office, and one couple came in to ask when they can get married.

"They're just calling to make sure everything's here when they come in," Loglisci said.

The state Department of Public Health sent a letter to town clerks on Friday to let them know that the state's marriage licenses have been revised and are expected to be mailed Wednesday.

Loglisci and other town clerks are not in a rush - they are busy with the upcoming elections.

Wilton resident Jeffrey Busch, a plaintiff in the lawsuit along with his partner Stephen Davis, said he believes that since Connecticut has given the couple the freedom to marry, they don't have to do it on the very first day.

"We've waited for almost 20 years," Busch said. "We can wait a little bit longer to do it right."

- Staff Writer Magdalene Perez contributed to this story. Staff Writer Lisa Chamoff can be reached at lisa.chamoff@scni.com or at 750-5348.

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