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Suit Filed Challenging Connecticut Marriage Laws

The same organization that successfully challenged Massachusetts' ban on same-sex marriages has filed a challenge to Connecticut's marriage laws.

Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders filed the challenge today in conjunction with the Connecticut Civil Liberties Union. The groups represent 7 Connecticut couples who were denied marriage licenses.

"This case presents a historic opportunity for Connecticut," said Mary Bonauto, GLAD's Civil Rights Director. "Marriage is both a profound personal commitment and unique legal relationship that provides enormous protections to families. As a simple matter of equality, it is time for Connecticut to end this discrimination against same-sex couples and their families." Bonauto represented the couples in Massachusetts as well.

"This case is about American citizens who pay taxes, vote, walk their dogs, wash their cars, own homes, and raise children," said Teresa C. Younger, Executive Director of the Connecticut Civil Liberties Union. "Our plaintiffs, American gay men and lesbians, are entitled to the same protections and rights as other Americans. The American dream is embedded in equality and fairness, and marrying the one you love is part of the American dream. No one should be denied that right."

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