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is form to Equality Virginia. Thank you.

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Attorney/Firm Questionnaire

Name: Elizabeth S. Vaughan

Organization/Law Firm: The Vaughan Firm

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1. Are you and your firm actively interested in representing gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender (GLBT) clients?

Yes.

2. Are you or your firm currently representing GLBT clients or have you represented GLBT clients in the past?

Yes.



3. Have you or your firm worked on matters/cases in which the sexual orientation, gender identity or expression of your client or your opponent played a role in the case or was relevant to the legal advice you gave? If so, what types of cases/matters have they been (workplace discrimination, housing discrimination, child custody, adoption, etc)?

Yes. I am an adoption attorney. Since adoption by same-sex couples, giving equal rights to both parents, is not currently legal in VA, I do Joint Custody and Guardianship Orders for them. I also do estate planning for same-sex couples with children.

4. Have you or your firm worked on matter(s)/case(s) in which you advocated for GLBT rights? If so, please describe the case(s)/matter(s).

Yes. Joint custody and co-guardianship orders for couples with adopted or biological children.

5. Have you or your firm ever used sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression against an opposing party on behalf of a client? If so, how?

I don't understand this question. I think the answer is "no."



6. What areas of your or your firm's practice might be of particular interest to prospective GLBT clients (e.g., workplace/housing discrimination, trusts and estates, tax planning, child custody, adoption or surrogacy, medical decision-making, health care, insurance benefits, personal injury litigation, hate crimes, etc)?

- Custody
- Guardianship
- Adoption (for singles in VA, couples in DC)
- Estate planning

7. Do you or your firm have any experience advising transgender people about the specific legal issues affecting such individuals? If so, please give examples.

No, although I am open to these cases.

8. What is your or your firm's policy on pro bono legal assistance?

I take several pro bono cases each year, choosing them based on the greater good the case can do (welfare of a child, important cause, etc.), the need of the client, and my available time.

I also offer free consultations and reduced rates for clients referred to me by Lambda Legal, The National LGBT Bar Association, and Equality Virginia because I believe LGBT clients are currently underserved and overcharged in Virginia.