



PLAINTIFFS IN THE LAWSUIT ON DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP BENEFITS

National Pride at Work is a constituency group of the AFL-CIO (American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations). Located in Washington D.C., Pride at Work has chapters throughout the United States, including Michigan. The purpose of Pride at Work is to mobilize mutual support between the organized labor movement and the lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgender ("LGBT") community around organizing for social and economic justice. Pride at Work operates within the labor movement to foster a better understanding of the needs of LGBT union members. Pride at Work supports domestic partnership benefits for LGBT employees, seeks full equality for LGBT Workers in their workplace and unions and publicly opposed the State of Michigan's removal of domestic partner benefits from the current state worker's contract.

Jerome Post has worked for the City of Kalamazoo as a labor relations specialist for four years. Jerome and **Paul Renwick** have been domestic partners for 14 years. Jerome accepted the job with the City because it offered domestic partner benefits, including health insurance coverage for Paul. Paul has recently been diagnosed with a chronic health condition that will require ongoing medical treatment. If the marriage amendment is interpreted to bar domestic partner benefits, he will be without access to medical treatment for his condition.

Jolinda Jach has worked as senior systems analyst with the City of Kalamazoo for 17 years. She and **Barbara Ramber** have been domestic partners for nine years and have two children. Barbara receives domestic partner benefits which include medical care, through Jolinda's employer. If the marriage amendment is interpreted to bar domestic partner benefits, Jolinda will have to obtain full-time employment to obtain health insurance on her own, which means that she will not be able to be at home for the children during the day.

Wade Carlson is the City Treasurer for the City of Kalamazoo. He and his partner **Kevin McMann** have been domestic partners for 24 years. Kevin is covered by Wade's domestic partner benefits which include medical care and family medical and bereavement leave. Kevin would be without health care coverage if the marriage amendment is interpreted to bar domestic partner benefits.

Tom Patrick has worked at Eastern Michigan University in the Department of Communication and Theatre Arts for eight and one half years. Tom and **Dennis Patrick** have been domestic partners for seven and one half years. They have three adopted children and two foster children. One of their adopted children has a developmental disability. Tom receives domestic partner benefits, including health insurance coverage, through Dennis' employer. This enables Tom to work part-time and spend time at home with their children. Should the marriage amendment be interpreted to bar domestic partners benefits, Tom will have to return to work full-time in order to qualify for health insurance from his employer, taking him away from their children.

Kathleen Moltz has worked for Wayne State University School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics and University Pediatrics for a year. Kathleen and **Dahlia Schwartz** have been

domestic partners for 15 years, were legally married in Massachusetts, and have two children. Kathleen, Dahlia and their family relocated to Michigan after Kathleen was offered a job with Wayne State. Kathleen accepted the job with Wayne because it offered domestic partner benefits, including health care coverage for Dahlia. Dahlia is a stay-at-home mom, who is home-schooling their children. Dahlia will be without health care coverage if the marriage amendment is interpreted to bar domestic partner benefits.

Joseph Darby has worked for the Clinton/Eaton/Ingham County Department of Mental Health for six and one half years and is a member of National Pride at Work, and is Co-President of the Michigan Chapter of Pride at Work. Joseph and **Ken Cyberski** have been domestic partners for 15 years. Joseph's employer provides domestic partner benefits that could cover Ken.

Mary Judith Block is a clinical psychologist who has been employed by the State of Michigan for over 10 years and is a member of UAW-Local 6000 which bargained with the State of Michigan to provide domestic partner benefits. Judith and **Kathleen Poelker** have been domestic partners for 8 years and have one child. Kathleen is self-employed as a sole practitioner with law offices in Washtenaw County and has to purchase her own health care insurance. Judith and Kathleen were relying upon this contract to provide health care coverage for Kathleen.

Debra Harrah has worked for the State of Michigan Department of Human Services and Ottawa County Children's Protective Services 10 years and is a member of UAW-Local 6000 which bargained with the State of Michigan to provide domestic partner benefits. Debra and **Michelle Corwin** have been domestic partners for 6 years. Debra and Michelle were relying upon this contract to provide health care coverage for Michelle.

Lori Curry has worked for the Family Independence Agency as a foster care/protective services worker in Ingham County and is a member of UAW-Local 6000 which bargained with the State of Michigan to provide domestic partner benefits. Lori and **Gwen Stokes** have been domestic partners for 3 years. Lori and Gwen were relying upon this contract to provide health care coverage for Gwen because Gwen's existing health insurance is less comprehensive than the coverage bargained for under the union contract.

Joanne Beemon is a state employee and has worked at the Forensic Center in Ann Arbor for 21 years. Joanne and **Carol Borgeson** have been domestic partners for 19 years and they have two children. Joanne and Carol are relying upon the State's promise to provide domestic partner benefits, because although Carol has health insurance from her private employer, it is not as comprehensive and she pays a much higher deductible than Joanne. Also Carol's employer, a dental practitioner, is planning to retire soon and as a result Carol will be without health insurance coverage if the marriage amendment is interpreted to bar government employers from providing domestic partnership benefits.

Gregg Pizzi has worked for the Department of Community Health for approximately two years. Gregg and **Adnan Ayoub** have been domestic partners for 11 years and are raising Adnan's children. They were relying upon the state contract to provide domestic partner benefits which could provide health care coverage for Adnan.

Peter Hammer is a law professor at Wayne State University. The availability of domestic partner benefits was a significant reason for Peter to accept a job with Wayne State University. Peter is able to provide his partner with access to health and medical benefits, in addition to receiving family medical and bereavement leave. Peter will no longer be able to provide his partner with domestic partner benefits, including health care coverage, if the marriage amendment is interpreted to bar government employers from providing domestic partnership benefits.

Courtney Chapin has worked for Michigan State University as a Field Career Consultant for 2 years and is a member of the Administrative Professional Association Union, which negotiated domestic partner benefits for its members. Courtney and **Mary Brisbois** have been domestic partners for 4 years. Mary receives domestic partner benefits, including health insurance coverage, through Courtney's employer. Courtney's decided to work for Michigan State University because Mary could receive domestic partnership benefits including health care coverage. Mary will be without health care coverage if the marriage amendment is interpreted to bar government employers from providing domestic partnership benefits.

Scott Dennis has worked for the University of Michigan as the Humanities Librarian and Coordinator for Core Electronic Resources for 8 years. Scott and **Jim Etzkorn** have been domestic partners for 3 years. Jim receives domestic partner benefits, including health care coverage, through Scott's employer. Scott moved from Wisconsin to take a position with the University of Michigan in part because the University offered domestic partner benefits. Jim will be without health care coverage if the marriage amendment is interpreted to bar government employers from providing domestic partnership benefits.

Ty Hiither has worked for the University of Michigan as a computer systems specialist for four and one half years. Ty and **Meghan Belanger** have been domestic partners for six years. Meghan receives health care coverage and family medical and bereavement leave under Ty's domestic partner benefit package. Meghan will be without health care coverage if the marriage amendment is interpreted to bar government employers from providing domestic partnership benefits.

Alexandra Stern has worked as an Assistant Professor in obstetrics and gynecology for the University of Michigan for three years. Alexandra and **Terri Koreck** have been domestic partners for 10 years. Alexandra accepted employment with the University in 2002 and the couple relocated from California because the University offered domestic partner benefits. Terri receives health care coverage and family medical and bereavement leave under Alexandra's domestic partner benefit package. Terri will be without health care coverage if the marriage amendment is interpreted to bar government employers from providing domestic partnership benefits.

A.T. Miller has worked for the University of Michigan for five years. A.T. and **Craig Kukuk** have been domestic partners for four years. Craig receives health care coverage and family medical and bereavement leave under A.T.'s domestic partner benefit package. Craig's work as a part-time mental health therapist providing low cost private group therapy is possible because he is covered under AT's benefits. Craig will be without health care coverage if the marriage amendment is interpreted to bar government employers from providing domestic partnership benefits.

Michael Falk and **Matt Scott** have been domestic partners for five and one half years. Michael is an assistant professor for the College of Engineering at the University of Michigan. His domestic partner benefits provide health insurance coverage for Matt, who works for a small private business. Michael took the job with the University of Michigan four and half years ago in part because of the domestic partner benefits offered. Matt will be without health care coverage if the amendment is interpreted to bar government employers from providing domestic partnership benefits.

Dorothea Anagnostopoulos has been an assistant professor at Michigan State University for four years. Dorothea and **Jill Fuller** reside in Ingham County. Dorothea and Jill have been domestic partners for 16 years and have one child. Jill receives health care coverage under Dorothea's domestic partner benefit package. Jill will be without health care coverage if the marriage amendment is interpreted to bar government employers from providing domestic partnership benefits.

Gary Lindsay has worked at Michigan State University for five years. Gary and **Michael Chapman** are Lansing residents and have been domestic partners for 15 years. Michael receives health care coverage and family medical and bereavement leave under Gary's domestic partner benefit package. Michael will be without health care coverage if the marriage amendment is interpreted to bar government employers from providing domestic partnership benefits.

Kitty O'Neil and **Becky Allen** work at Michigan State University. Kitty and Becky have been domestic partners for 11 years. Both Kitty and Becky are entitled to health coverage under each others domestic partner benefits, if one of them should become unemployed. Last year Becky was unemployed for several months and would not have had health insurance but for Kitty's domestic partner benefits coverage. Kitty or Becky could be without health care coverage if one of them lost their job and the marriage amendment is interpreted to bar government employers from providing domestic partnership benefits.