



Standing for Faith, Family, and Freedom in Texas

June 25, 2015

John F. Warren
Dallas County Clerk
509 Main Street, Suite 200
Dallas, TX 75202

Delivered via fax
214-653-7176

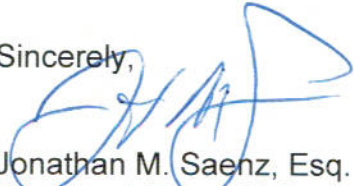
Re: Marriage License Forms

Dear Mr. Warren:

The Dallas Morning News reports that you intend to alter the marriage license form provided by the Bureau of Vital Statistics in the event the United State Supreme Court announces a constitutional right to same sex marriage. See Melissa Repko, Dallas County Set To Issue Licenses If Ruling Favors Gay Marriage, Dallas Morning News, June 11, 2015, available at <http://bit.ly/1L56pD1> (last visited on June 24, 2015). It is also reported that you intend to defy state law and begin issuing marriage licenses to same sex couples immediately after the Supreme Court's ruling. See *id.* (“[W]ithin an hour and a half of the opinion, we’ll start issuing licenses.”). Your proposed course of action is a criminal offense, and the Supreme Court’s ruling cannot shield you from criminal liability.

The Texas Family Code requires county clerks to “furnish the application form as prescribed by the bureau of vital statistics.” See Tex. Family Code § 2.004. You have no authority to alter this form, and any county clerk who alters this form before providing it to an applicant commits a criminal offense. See Tex. Family Code § 2.012. It appears that you believe that a Supreme Court decision in favor of redefining marriage would allow you to disregard state law. Instead of taking the law into your own hands, we encourage you to follow the direction and/or recommendations of Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on this issue.

Sincerely,



Jonathan M. Saenz, Esq.
President, Texas Values



Standing for Faith, Family, and Freedom in Texas

June 25, 2015

Gerard C. Rickhoff
Bexar County Clerk
100 Dolorosa, Suite 104
San Antonio, TX 78205

Delivered via fax
210-335-2197

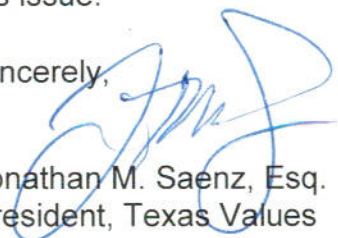
Re: Marriage License Forms

Dear Mr. Rickhoff:

The San Antonio Express-News reports that you have altered the marriage license form provided by the bureau of vital statistics in anticipation of the Supreme Court's ruling on same sex marriage. See Joshua Fechter and Rebecca Elliott, *Bexar County Ready To Issue Marriage Licenses To Same-Sex Couples*, San Antonio Express-News, June 24, 2015, available at <http://bit.ly/1J72d2D> (last visited on June 24, 2015). It is also reported that you intend to defy state law and begin issuing marriage licenses to same sex couples immediately after the Supreme Court's ruling. See *id.* Your proposed course of action is a criminal offense, and the Supreme Court's ruling cannot shield you from criminal liability.

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