

Rainbow Chamber Applauds Federal Court Ruling Protecting LGBT Employees

April 6, SAN JOSE, CA—Rainbow Chamber of Commerce Silicon Valley President Roark Clayton released the following statement on behalf of the Chamber Board of Directors regarding the April 4 ruling by the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago that the 1964 Civil Rights protects LGBT employees from workplace discrimination:

“The Seventh Circuit’s ruling aligns with a long-held corporate best practice of including sexual orientation in nondiscrimination policies. By allowing workers to feel protected in the workplace, they are empowered to bring their best selves to the workplace, which increases productivity, raises performance levels, and retains top LGBT talent,” says Clayton. “This is an encouraging step forward toward eradicating discrimination in the workforce, and moves the LGBT business community toward our goal of similar protections and full inclusion in government and private sector contracting. We advocate the business case for protecting the millions of hard-working, tax-paying Americans who fuel the U.S. economy, including America’s estimated 1.4 million LGBT business owners. When our community is safe and allowed to thrive, America will achieve its full economic potential.”

About the Rainbow Chamber of Commerce Silicon Valley

Established in 1999 to give exposure to the LGBT business community, the Rainbow Chamber of Commerce Silicon Valley is the largest not-for-profit corporation in Silicon Valley for LGBT businesses comprised of LGBT and LGBT-supportive business owners and professionals. For additional information, visit www.rainbowchamber.org.

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