

DALLAS GAY ALLIANCE

May 1, 1990

MEMORANDA: REQUIRES IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

To: Evan Wolfson (Fax: 212 995-2306)
Patrick Wiseman (Fax: 512 479-0409)
Mica England

Fr: William Waybourn (Fax: 214 528-8436)

Re: Press Conference on May 15.

The attached press advisory will go out this week; therefore, I wanted to confirm our plans to have a press conference on Tuesday, May 15th, at 2 p.m. at the Dallas Gay Alliance Annex, 3926-Rear Cedar Springs.

We will make the announcement in Dallas, while at the same time someone from Patrick's office will need to file the case at the Travis County Courthouse. Most news outlets will not cover legal challenges until after they are filed. If filed earlier than 2 p.m., then the press will ignore the embargo and chaos will result from everyone scrambling around for interviews. Additionally, the press may call you for advance "background" information (I will encourage them to do so), but please avoid specifics (like Austin filing) and caution them that your conversation and any information obtained cannot be used until after the May 15th, 2 p.m. press conference.

Participants at the press conference will include:

Mica England
Patrick Wiseman
Evan Wolfson
William Waybourn

Patrick and Evan will need to book their travel arrangements to accommodate this schedule. Mica will need to arrange to take off from work. If this schedule is not complete, or others needed to be added (from Patrick's office), then please call me as soon as possible at 214 748-2222.

cc: Gail Dickenson
Chris Ivits

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EDITOR'S ADVISORY CONTAINS EMBARGOED INFORMATION

CHALLENGE TO DALLAS POLICE HIRING
POLICIES TO BE FILED

A legal challenge to the Dallas Police Department's anti-gay hiring policies will be filed on May 15, 1990. A press conferences will be held to maximize access to requests for interviews with Mica England of Dallas, who will be the plaintiff in the case, and her attorneys, Patrick Wiseman of Richards, Wiseman and Durst in Austin, and Evan Wolfson, New York, representing the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, a national legal rights organization specializing in gay/lesbian cases.

Information about the filing and details of the case will be revealed at 2 p.m. (Tuesday, May 15th) at the Dallas Gay Alliance Annex, 3926-Rear Cedar Springs (enter through parking lot behind 3900 block of Cedar Springs). We ask that you honor a embargo on information about the case until after the press conference, 2 p.m. CDT.

Miss England will also be added as a co-plaintiff in the case against Section 21.06 of the State Penal Code, which criminalizes homosexual conduct, making it a Class C misdemeanor (equivalent to a traffic ticket). The DPD uses 21.06 as justification for the Department's discriminatory policy. Miss England was denied employment by the DPD last July after completing the first round of interviews in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She gained national attention after she was first recruited by the DPD and then told she could not be hired because she was a lesbian.

Miss England subsequently moved to Dallas to establish residency and has agreed to challenge the Department's hiring procedures.

For more information contact: William Waybourn
(214) 748-2222