



San Diego City Attorney Mara W. Elliott

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Contact: Cheryl Nolan at cnolan@sandiego.gov or (619) 533-6176

City Attorney joins City Councilmembers to Support Colorado Anti-Discrimination Law

City Attorney Mara W. Elliott today issued this statement following the San Diego City Council's 6-1 vote to join an amicus brief in support of the Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act in the U.S. Supreme Court case *Masterpiece Cakeshop, Ltd. v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*:

“The City Council’s action reflects the values of our city,” City Attorney Mara W. Elliott said. **“If the Supreme Court does not support Colorado in this case, any form of discrimination will be permissible as long as it’s consistent with a religious belief. Anti-discrimination laws, including San Diego’s, would become unenforceable.”**

The case before the Supreme Court this month was filed by a same-sex couple who were denied the services of a Colorado baker because the baker opposed same-sex marriage. When the Colorado Civil Rights Commission found the baker in violation of the state’s anti-discrimination law, the baker sued, alleging a violation of his religious beliefs. The Colorado Supreme Court upheld a lower court decision finding that the bakery owner could not use his religious beliefs to deny service to same-sex couples.

Under Colorado’s public accommodation law, it is discriminatory and unlawful for a person to refuse to serve or deny an individual or group any goods or services based on their disability, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, or ancestry.

Colorado’s anti-discrimination act mirrors California’s Unruh Civil Rights Act, which affords the same protections against discrimination to same-sex couples and the LGBT community.

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