

**Administration**  
925.335.7899  
925.335.7893 fax

**Clerk-Recorder Division**  
925.335.7900  
925.335.7923 fax

**Elections Division**  
925.335.7800  
925.335.7836 fax

# Contra Costa County Clerk-Recorder-Elections Department

555 Escobar Street  
Martinez, CA 94553



**Joseph E. Canciamilla**  
County Clerk-Recorder and  
Registrar of Voters

**Deborah R. Cooper**  
Deputy County Clerk-Recorder

**Frederick Garcia**  
Clerk Recorder Services  
Manager

June 26, 2013

Contact: Joseph E. Canciamilla (925) 335-7899

## **Contra Costa County Prepared for Resumption of Same-Gender Marriages**

### *State Department of Public Health Guidelines Will Set Timeline*

Following this morning's decision of the U.S. Supreme Court, the Contra Costa County Clerk-Recorder is expecting a surge in applications for marriage licenses by same-gender couples. While the ruling appears to clear the way for same-gender marriages to be legally performed, County Clerk-Recorder Joe Canciamilla cautions that there are procedural steps that still need to be taken. "We took steps prior to the passage of Proposition 8 that will allow us to quickly shift gears and enable same-gender marriages," Canciamilla said. "All of our documents are gender neutral, and our staff is fully prepared to manage the likely pent-up demand. However, the Prop 8 supporters can still request a re-hearing up to 25 days after today's decision, although it is possible that same-gender marriages could resume before that date passes should the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals lift its stay of the District Court's original decision to overturn Prop 8."

The State Department of Public Health is the agency responsible for setting guidelines for marriage licensing and will have to authorize counties to once again issue licenses to same-gender couples. The Contra Costa County Clerk-Recorder's office will be available to answer questions once the ruling is issued and will provide updates once it is known when same-gender marriages can legally resume.

For background and details about marriage license procedures in Contra Costa County, as well as online forms to help speed up your application visit the [Clerk-Recorder's marriage licensing information website](#). (Main page: [www.ccclerkrec.us](http://www.ccclerkrec.us))

To reach the County Clerk-Recorder Office, call 925-335-7900.