



## **Merrell Bailey to Participate as a Panelist to Discuss Upcoming Supreme Court Decision on Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA)**

**Maitland, FL – May 9, 2013** – Bailey Zobel Pilcher, a boutique law firm focused on the practice areas of probate, wills, trust and guardianship services, as well as business succession, asset protection and estate planning, today announced that managing partner Merrell Bailey will be one of four panelists participating in an event hosted by the Central Florida Gay & Lesbian Law Association (CFGALLA) on May 17, at 2:00 pm. The panelists will discuss the potential impact of the upcoming Supreme Court rulings in *Windsor* and *Hollingsworth* on bankruptcy, estate planning and tax law.

Moderated by attorney Larry D. Smith, the discussion will be structured to provide a forum for each speaker to discuss their area of expertise—bankruptcy, estate planning and tax law—as well as answer audience questions. In addition to Bailey, panelists include U.S. Bankruptcy Judge John K. Olson, S.D. Florida; Thomas Dyer, Esq.; and Mary Meeks, Esq. A networking reception will be held after the discussion.

“I’m honored to be included in this distinguished panel,” Bailey said. “There is a great deal of uncertainty and anticipation surrounding the Supreme Court’s upcoming mid-year decision on this case. Whether the Court upholds or strikes down DOMA, there are still going to be a myriad of state laws that have to be wrestled with in order to answer even some of the most basic estate planning, tax and bankruptcy issues that arise with same-sex couples. I look forward to being a part of this discussion and I hope to bring a degree of clarity to this important issue, as it affects the lives of so many throughout Florida and the U.S.,” Bailey said.

The event will be held at the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Middle District of Florida, in Orlando. For more information, visit the CFGALLA website at [www.cfgalla.org](http://www.cfgalla.org).

### **About Central Florida Gay & Lesbian Law Association**

Founded in 2004, the Central Florida Gay & Lesbian Law Association is a regional Voluntary Bar Association of The Florida Bar. The organization’s goal is to establish and maintain an integrated group to support, assist, and encourage gay and lesbian attorneys, legal professionals, and law students, and provide support and resources to the community at large on gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered issues. CFGALLA is a qualified 501(c)(6) non-profit organization under the Internal Revenue Code.

### **About Bailey Zobel Pilcher**

Bailey Zobel Pilcher is a boutique law firm in Maitland offering probate, wills, trusts and guardianship services, as well as business succession, asset protection and estate planning. Known as “Your Caring Law Firm,” Partners Mary Merrell Bailey, Hallie Zobel, and David Pilcher offer clients throughout the Central Florida region compassionate legal counsel on very private family matters. Visit [www.YourCaringLawFirm.com](http://www.YourCaringLawFirm.com) or call (407) 622-1900.