

Ruth Chance Lecture Series

Presents:

LOOKING AT AND BEYOND RACE AFTER PROPOSITION 8

Waukeen McCoy
Law Offices of Waukeen McCoy

Andrea Shorter
Champaign Director, And Marriage for All

Jan. 26, 2009

Boalt - 170

12:45 - 1:45 p.m.



Waukeen McCoy is a 1988 graduate of San Francisco State University, and a 1992 graduate of UC Hastings College of the Law where he was elected student body Vice President. During law school he served as a certified intern for the Legal Aid Society of Alameda County, and taught Street Law to high school students. After graduation, Mr. McCoy started his own firm. The San Francisco firm specializes in litigation related to discrimination on the basis of age, race, sex, sexual orientation, HIV, gender, transgender, and disability. He also defends the rights of the elderly. The firm also specializes in same-sex marriage disputes.

He was involved in *Robinson v. Louie*, which set precedent regarding the non-disclosure of HIV to a partner. In 1998, McCoy was the first to file a lawsuit for same-sex, putative spousal rights. In 2000, he was lead counsel in *Carroll v. IBC*, in which the jury awarded \$133 million in damages, the largest jury verdict ever in a race discrimination case. In September, 2000, San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown honored him by proclaiming September 1, 2000, as Waukeen McCoy Day in the City and County of San Francisco.

McCoy was lead attorney in the Clinton case in which he represented six, same-sex couples. The case was coordinated as "In re Marriages Cases." He argued the case before the California Supreme Court in March, 2008, and prevailed, when in June, 2008, the California Supreme Court affirmed the constitutional right to marriage regardless of sexual orientation.



Andrea Shorter is co-chair of the Bayard LGBT Rustin Coalition, Northern California's largest Black LGBT political organization. A longtime advocate in the LGBT community, she is the former Deputy Executive Director of the NAMES Project Foundation/AIDS Memorial Quilt, where she launched several key HIV/AIDS outreach and education initiatives targeting African American and South African communities.

The former Deputy Director of the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice, Andrea co-developed and directed an award-winning Excellence in Government program at John F. Kennedy School of Governance. She has co-authored several studies on race, gender, and incarceration.

Andrea is a past Trustee of the SF Community College Board. At the time, she was the youngest, and first elected, openly LGBT Trustee in the nation. She has served as Treasurer of the LGBT Caucus of the California State Democratic Party.

Andrea currently serves as President of the SF Commission on the Status of Women and is a recently deputized Marriage Commissioner for the State of California. Andrea is a graduate of Whittier College.

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