

Dykes To Watch Out For

By Alison Bechdel

Human Rights Commission Compiles Lawyer Referral List

The Vermont Human Rights Commission now has available a list of lawyers from around Vermont who have indicated an interest in gay and lesbian issues. The Commission sent questionnaires to all licensed attorneys in Vermont asking them to identify whether or not they were interested in receiving referrals regarding specific anti-discrimination issues. These included housing discrimination, employment discrimination, discrimination in places of public accommodation, federal civil rights, civil enforcement under the hate crimes act, and lesbian and gay issues.

The Human Rights Commission's lawyer referral list can be helpful for any person in need of consulting with or hiring an attorney to handle matters of particular concern to gays and lesbians. The list can be used as a starting point in finding attorney representation. Having an attorney appear on the list only indicates has or her willingness to accept cases involving particular civil rights matters, but does not guarantee the attorney's experience or competence.

People interested in obtaining the list, which is organized by county, can do so by contacting the Human Rights Commission at 828-2480, or by writing to P.O. Box 997, Montpelier, Vermont 05601. Inquires made to the Commission are kept confidential. At this point, the referral service is being offered free of charge. ▼



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