

Supreme Court

No. 06-340-M.P.

Margaret Chambers :

v. :

Cassandra Ormiston :

ORDER

This case is before this Court on a certified question of law from the Family Court. On January 17, 2007, after our initial review of the record, we remanded the papers for additional proceedings as specifically delineated in our Order of that date, to include *inter alia* a rewording and clarification of the certified question that we were being asked to consider. The Family Court on remand conducted a hearing and rendered a decision in accordance with our directives and the case has now been returned to this Court for further proceedings. The question of law certified to us, as clarified, is as follows:

“May the Family Court properly recognize, for the purpose of entertaining a divorce petition, the marriage of two persons of the same sex who were purportedly married in another state?”

Upon careful consideration of the question presented, we hereby direct that the following Order shall enter:

1. The certified question is assigned to the regular calendar for full briefing and oral argument. The Governor, the Attorney-General, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, and all interested persons and/or organizations are invited to file briefs as *amici curiae*. All briefs shall be filed on or before **August 1, 2007**. Responsive briefs shall be filed on or before **August 15, 2007**. Reply briefs shall be filed by **August 31, 2007**.

2. The following shall be included amongst the issues addressed by the parties and *amici curiae* in their briefs: a) whether or not this case presents an actual case or controversy; b) whether or not the Full Faith and Credit clause of the United States Constitution is relevant to this case; and c) whether or not the Defense of Marriage Act, 28 U.S.C. §1738C (2000), is relevant to this case.
3. Following conclusion of the briefing period, the Court will select a date for the presentation of oral argument.

Entered as an Order of this Court this *21st* day of *May 2007*.

By Order,

s/s
Clerk