



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 26, 2015

**Kent County Clerk's Office Prepares for
Same Sex Marriage License Requests**

GRAND RAPIDS – The Supreme Court decision today in *DeBoer v. Snyder* requires some changes to Kent County's marriage license forms. The Kent County Clerk's Office will be accepting applications for same sex marriage licenses effective immediately. The Clerk's Office is working with its vendor to update the County's marriage license forms to follow the forms provided by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Interested parties may apply in person or online. Applying online saves time and reduces the applicants' visits to the Clerk's office. Due to an anticipated increase in the number of licenses requested, we recommend all couples file their marriage application in a timely fashion, and anticipate the statutory three day waiting period before they can pick-up their license.

Set Date: Arrange for wedding ceremony, officiant, and set a date *before* applying.

Apply: One applicant must apply in person or online. [Marriage License Online Application](#): (Online Fee is \$3.00 and will save a trip to the Clerk's Office) or [Marriage License Application](#) (PDF). Applications are also available at the Kent County Clerk's Office.

Application Fee: \$20.00 for county residents and \$30.00 for out-of-state applicants.

Social Security Numbers: Required of both parties (or legal reason why none).

Proof of Age: Government issued birth certificates (not hospital versions) and current driver's licenses or state IDs (copies sufficient) are required FOR BOTH (documents must be in English). Bring both individuals' social security numbers. Parental or guardian consent is required for 16 - 17 year olds. One parent must be present to sign consent form with valid government issued ID.

Residence: One applicant must be a Kent County resident or both non-Michigan residents being married in Kent County. Proof of address required by showing valid driver's license or state ID.

Pick Up: In person, **no sooner than 3 days after application**, at the Clerk's Office with required documents.

Please Note: License is good for 33 days from and including application date.
Witnesses must be 18 or older.
License may be used in any county in Michigan.
If ceremony is to be in English, then both parties must understand English.

The Kent County Clerk's office opens Monday through Friday at 8 a.m. Applicants **MUST** be in the office no later than 4:45 p.m. to apply for a license. More information and the online application are available at www.accesskent.com/Departments/CountyClerk/marriage_app.htm.

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