

# CITY OF ALBANY



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**Gerald D. Jennings**  
MAYOR

**Philip F. Calderone**  
DEPUTY MAYOR

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### **STATEMENT BY MAYOR GERALD D. JENNINGS ON SAME SEX MARRIAGE IN THE CITY OF ALBANY 10/1/05**

"I want to take this opportunity to be very clear on the issue of same sex marriage in the City of Albany. I agree, in whole, with Attorney General Eliot Spitzer analysis and opinion that the Legislature did not intend to authorize same sex marriages, but it raises constitutional concerns, which are best resolved by the courts.

As a matter of policy, the City of Albany will adhere to the Attorney General's recommendation of not issuing marriage licenses to same sex couples. In further accordance with the Attorney General's recommendations, officiants should not solemnize marriages of same sex couples.

However, I am committed to upholding the law which recognizes both civil unions and same sex marriages legally performed outside of New York State. And that parties to such unions must be treated as spouses for the purposes of New York Law.

"As the Capital of New York State, I will ensure that Albany sets an example by having the strongest of commitments to the law, equality, social justice and fighting all forms of discrimination. At its heart, this issue is about families and as long as I am Mayor, members of the LGBT community will be an equal part of the family of Albany."

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