

# A Legal Handbook for LGBT Floridians and Their Families

June 01, 2012

This first edition of *A Legal Handbook for LGBT Floridians and Their Families* was a *pro bono* project of the law firm of Carlton Fields and is intended to be an easy reference source for same-sex couples in Florida – particularly with respect to long-term planning related to health, family and financial considerations. It contains useful legal and practical information on topics of special interest to the LGBT community, but its use is by no means limited to LGBT couples. Single Floridians, including unmarried couples, should find this booklet informative and helpful. The material provided is based on the laws and practices of the State of Florida and its agencies, and in some cases, the laws and practices of the federal government. This Handbook cannot answer every question, nor can it replace the advice and counsel of an attorney when needed. Rather, it provides information of a general nature and answers to some of the more common questions that LGBT Floridians often have. This Handbook deals with laws and policies that may change often, particularly in the area of LGBT rights. Consequently, when the Handbook directs you to a particular statute, rule or agency, please check to make sure that the information is current.

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