



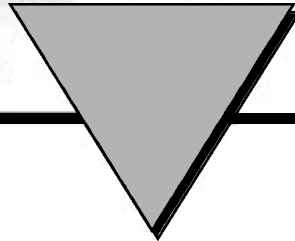
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**We're Here! We're Career!**  
**U.S. Department of Justice**



*Pride*



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**Pride Month Celebration**  
**and**  
**Awards Ceremony**

Wednesday, June 19, 2002  
5:30 p.m.

The Great Hall



***2002 Gerald B. Roemer Community Service Award***

The Gay & Lesbian Liaison Unit (GLLU) of the  
Metropolitan Police Department of  
Washington, DC

***2002 James R. Douglass Award***

Allison Nichol  
Karla Dobinski  
Howard Griffin  
Louis Stewart



**We're Here! We're Career!**

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Pride Month Celebration and Awards Ceremony**

**Program**

Music Prelude . . . . .Victor Galindo

Welcome . . . . .Marina Colby, President  
DOJ Pride

Presentation of . . . . .Karla Dobinski, Deputy Chief  
Roemer Community Criminal Section, Civil Rights Division  
Service Award U.S. Department of Justice

Presentation of . . . . .Members of DOJ Pride Board  
Douglass Awards

Music in Celebration . . . . .Lesbian and Gay Chorus of Washington  
Ray Killian, Director

Closing . . . . .Marina Colby



## ***The Gerald B. Roemer Community Service Award***

DOJ Pride confers the Gerald B. Roemer Community Service award to recognize contributions to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) Community. Established in 1998, the Roemer Award recalls the life of Jerry Roemer, who died in 1997 from complications of AIDS. After receiving his HIV diagnosis, Jerry chose to complete law school and then began a career with the Department of Justice. Commenting on his death, former Attorney General Janet Reno said: “He humanized the experience of living with AIDS, demonstrating courage and hope to all.”

## ***The Gay & Lesbian Liaison Unit of the Metropolitan Police Department***

This year, DOJ Pride awards the Roemer Community Service Award to the Gay & Lesbian Liaison Unit (GLLU) of the Metropolitan Police Department of Washington, DC. Since its inception in June 2000, the GLLU has dedicated itself to serving the GLBT communities in the Washington Metropolitan area and the Metropolitan Police Department.



## *The James R. Douglass Award*

DOJ Pride confers the James R. Douglass Award to recognize individuals whose efforts have contributed positively to the work-life environment for GLBT employees of the Department. The award, established in 1997, is named in honor of Jim Douglass, a founding member of DOJ Pride, who died in 1996. Jim was an openly Gay, HIV-positive employee of the Justice Management Division for many years of his career in the Federal Government.

### *Career Employees of the Department of Justice*

This year, DOJ Pride awards the James R. Douglass Award to four individuals, all DOJ career employees, to recognize their long-term commitment to the work of the Department as openly gay or lesbian employees. Through their years of service as openly gay and lesbian employees, they have improved the work-life environment for all employees of the Department. We honor Allison Nichol, Karla Dobinski, Howard Griffin and Louis Stewart:

#### *Allison Nichol*

In 1994, after obtaining a successful jury verdict in the first case brought under the Americans With Disabilities Act, Ms. Nichol accepted a detail to the Disability Rights Section in order participate in the Department's first cases under title III of the ADA. In 1996, she was appointed Deputy Chief of the Disability Rights Section and has continued to ensure that a part of the section's work is devoted to fighting discrimination against those with HIV disease and AIDS.



*Karla Dobinski*

Ms. Dobinski joined the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division as a trial attorney in 1985. She has obtained convictions after jury trials in all of the major enforcement areas of the Criminal Section -- police brutality, slavery and hate crimes, including racial violence. Since 1998, she has served as Senior Deputy, supervising a variety of investigations and prosecutions undertaken by a team of attorneys. Ms. Dobinski initiated the Division's efforts to investigate hate crimes based on sexual orientation. She has spoken at numerous events and working groups about violence against gays and lesbians, and participated in efforts by the Civil Rights Division to alert United States Attorney's Offices to the availability of the federal sentencing enhancement for crimes motivated by bias based on sexual orientation, gender and disability. In addition to the numerous Division Awards, she was a recipient of the Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award in 1998.

*Howard Griffin*

Mr. Griffin grew up in West Virginia and eventually found his way to Washington to attend law school at George Washington University. Upon graduating and after a brief stint with the National Association of College and University Attorneys, he began work with the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division, where he's been for nearly twenty years. During his first background re-investigation, an FBI agent phoned him at the office for the sole purpose of asking him to admit that he was gay. (The phone call came after the agent had interviewed Mr. Griffin and his long-term partner in person at their house and had talked to and heard from my several of his closest, out and proud friends). After Mr. Griffin reassured the agent he was, in fact, gay, the agent indicated his relief at the answer, saying darkly that it would have been a bad thing if Mr. Griffin had denied it.



*Louis Stewart*

Early on, Mr. Stewart realized his sexuality and in 1974 he was drawn to the equal rights agenda of the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division. After some time, he transferred to work for the Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education, in San Francisco. He continued to do cases for the Department of Justice while in the San Francisco and was appointed as a "special" attorney to litigate school desegregation cases in Tucson and Phoenix, Arizona. In 1981, Mr. Stewart was promoted to be the Chief Regional Attorney for the Philadelphia office of the Office for Civil Rights. In 1991, he returned to Civil Rights Division to aid in enforcement of the recently passed Americans with Disabilities Act. In 1995, he transferred to the Housing Section.

