

## **SAME SEX MARRIAGE CASES AND SAME SEX PARTNER CASES ARE NOW A U.S. IMMIGRATION REALITY: Implementation of the Supreme Court Ruling on the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).**

The Supreme Court struck down a key part of the Federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) last Wednesday and declared that same-sex couples who are legally married deserve equal rights to the benefits under federal law that go to all other married couples.

The decision is a landmark win for the gay rights movement. It voids a section of the law known as DOMA, which was adopted with bipartisan support in Congress in 1996 to deny all benefits and recognition to same-sex couples.

### **The following is Statement from Secretary of Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano:**

"After last week's decision by the Supreme Court holding that Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) is unconstitutional, President Obama directed federal departments to ensure the decision and its implication for federal benefits for same-sex legally married couples are implemented swiftly and smoothly. To that end, effective immediately, I have directed U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to review immigration visa petitions filed on behalf of a same-sex spouse in the same manner as those filed on behalf of an opposite-sex spouse."

[TO READ MORE, PLEASE CLICK HERE...](#)

[TO WATCH THE VIDEO, PLEASE CLICK HERE . . .](#)

