



## State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Department of Justice  
PO Box 629  
Raleigh, North Carolina  
27602

October 15, 2013

The Hon. Drew Reisinger  
Register of Deeds  
Buncombe County  
60 Court Plaza  
Asheville, N. C. 28801

Dear Mr. Reisinger:

This letter is to follow up on our telephone conversations yesterday concerning marriage license applications from same-sex couples you expected to receive today. It is my understanding that you have now received these applications and that it is your intent to hold them pending advice from this office.

As we discussed, North Carolina law presently prohibits the issuance of a marriage license to same-sex couples. A lawsuit has been filed challenging the constitutionality of North Carolina's law in view of recent decisions by the United States Supreme Court. The courts will ultimately decide whether North Carolina's prohibition of same-sex marriages is constitutional. Unless the courts rule otherwise or North Carolina law is changed, issuance of a marriage license to a same-sex couple would be a violation of the law.

I hope this information is helpful.

Very truly yours,

  
Grayson Kelley  
Chief Deputy Attorney General

GK/sm