



Candidate Questionnaire 2015

Instructions: Please return questionnaire via email, fax, or mail:

Purpose: Thank you for taking the time to fill out the Equality Virginia Advocates candidate questionnaire. The questionnaire will help our supporters, the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community, and its allies know where candidates stand on issues important to them. Your returned questionnaire will also serve as part of the evaluation process for EVPAC's Board in regards to endorsements.

Publication: Your answers are "on the record" and will be circulated to all members of the EVPAC Board, and may be shared outside the organization and published to the EV Advocates website.

Candidate and Campaign Information:

Name: Dan Gecker

Address: 205 N 19th Street Richmond VA 23223

Phone: 804-387-5602

Email: dgecker@comcast.net

Campaign Website: www.dangeckerforsenate.com

Campaign Manager: Mollie Binotto

Campaign Manager Phone/Email: mollie@dangeckerforsenate.com; (724) 255-7878

Race and Election Information

Office Sought: Virginia Senate, 10th District

City, County or District of office:

Select One: Challenger Incumbent Open Seat

Positions

- A. Equality Virginia asks all General Assembly members to sign a [statement](#) that they do not discriminate in their office based on sexual orientation or gender identity. If you are an incumbent, have you signed EV's nondiscrimination statement [[check here](#)]? If you are not, will you sign the nondiscrimination statement if elected? Please include other actions you and your office take to create an open and inclusive workplace for gay and transgender employees.

I will sign the nondiscrimination pledge. My private business and my campaigns have always been open and inclusive to all.

- B. Please describe your level of support for the following issues that are legislative priorities for Equality Virginia.

1. **Protecting public employees from discrimination based on their real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.**

High priority. We need a law and not just an Executive Order from every other Governor

2. **Ensuring that LGBT Virginians have equal access to public accommodations and housing.**

High priority.

- C. Please describe your level of support for the following issues that are important to EV and Virginia's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and allied community.

1. **Banning "conversion therapy" practiced on LGBT minors.**

High level of support. This type of pseudoscience is harmful to minors and has no place in the Commonwealth.

2. **Protecting all LGBT Virginians from discrimination in the workplace.**

High level of support. Workplace anti-discrimination should be law.

3. **Removing the Marshall Newman Marriage Amendment from the Virginia Constitution.**

High level of support.

D. Provide any additional information regarding your involvement in or support for the LGBT community.

- I think that advocacy can take the form of having certain practices be routine. We do not discriminate based on any factor. The result of that policy has been a workforce (contractors and subcontractors – we have very few direct employees) that better mirrors the population in terms of race and sexual orientation.
- We do not discriminate in our business based on any factor. We seek minority participation in our projects. In our business, I am not aware of any firms self-identifying as LGBT and therefore it is more difficult to specifically seek participation of such firms in our projects. I am aware of the VGLCC but have not yet seen any listing of LGBT owned businesses.
- I have not “worked” to include LGBT and other minority individuals in my personal life. I have LGBT and minority individuals in my life as a natural by-product of how we live our lives. We have an open and welcoming home and have raised our children to be inclusive.

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. If you have any questions, please contact Equality Virginia Advocates at 804-643-4816 or JamesParrish@EAdvocates.org.