

Dentons' Evan Wolfson named to Crain's New York Business's 2021 Notable LGBTQ Leaders and Executives list

June 7, 2021

Dentons, the world's largest law firm, announces today that *Crain's New York Business* has named Evan Wolfson to its 2021 Notable LGBTQ Leaders and Executives list. Wolfson, among other nominees, was selected for his career accomplishments, mentorship of others, and involvement in community and industry organizations.

Wolfson, a senior counsel resident in Dentons' New York office, has been an acclaimed advocate for gay rights and an internationally recognized civil rights lawyer and strategist since he wrote his Harvard Law School thesis on gay people and the right to marry in 1983. As founder and president of Freedom to Marry, Wolfson is widely acknowledged as the architect of the marriage equality movement, having developed and led the successful strategy that won same-sex couples the right to marry throughout the US. Wolfson was also involved in winning the freedom to marry in Canada, South Africa, the UK, Ireland, Australia, Taiwan, Costa Rica and several other countries. He now coaches similar efforts in diverse countries, including the Czech Republic, Japan, Panama, Peru and Vietnam, while also advising and assisting diverse organizations and causes—including advocacy for immigrants, women's rights, racial justice, the environment, healthcare, gun control, animal rights and defending our democracy—in the US.

Wolfson is the author of the landmark book *Why Marriage Matters: America, Equality, and Gay People's Right to Marry* (Simon & Schuster, 2004), and was named one of "the 100 most influential lawyers in America" by the *National Law Journal*. *Newsweek/The Daily Beast* dubbed Wolfson "the godfather of gay marriage," and *Time Magazine* named him one of "the 100 most influential people in the world." He has taught law and social change at Yale, Georgetown Law, Columbia Law and Rutgers Law. In 2012, Wolfson was awarded the Barnard Medal of Distinction alongside President Obama. He has been honored by the American Bar Association, the American Psychiatric Association and the Minority Corporate Counsel Association, among many other recognitions.

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