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Press Release

Akerman Earns Perfect Score in Corporate Equality Index for 4th Year in a Row

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Firm Honored Among Nation's Top Leaders in LGBT Workplace Equality

Akerman LLP, a top 100 U.S. law firm serving clients across the Americas, received a perfect, 100 percent score in the 2018 Corporate Equality Index (CEI) for the fourth consecutive year. The national benchmarking survey, administered by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation, measures the equality of corporate policies and practices for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) lawyers and other professionals.

The 2018 CEI rated nearly 1,000 U.S. businesses, with 61 percent receiving top marks as leaders in LGBT workplace equality. As part of this select group, Akerman once again earned the "Best Place to Work for LGBT Equality" distinction.

Since its 2002 launch, U.S. businesses have revered CEI as the standard-bearer for LGBT workplace equality. For organizations to achieve a perfect score and become a "Best Place to Work for LGBT Equality," they must have fully inclusive equal employment opportunity policies, non-discrimination workplace protections, domestic partner benefits, transgender-inclusive health care benefits, LGBT competency programs and public engagement with the LGBT community.

Related Offices

Austin Boca Raton Chicago Dallas Denver Fort Lauderdale Houston Jacksonville Las Vegas Los Angeles Madison Miami **Naples New Orleans** New York Orlando Salt Lake City San Antonio Tallahassee Tampa Washington, D.C. West Palm Beach HRC President Chad Griffin noted that the topscoring companies on this year's CEI are vocal advocates for equality in the public square, including the dozens that have signed on to amicus briefs in vital Supreme Court cases and the 106 corporate supporters of the Equality Act. "We are proud to have developed so many strong partnerships with corporate allies who see LGBT equality as a crucial issue for our country and for their businesses."

Akerman is recognized by numerous publications as one of the nation's most diverse and inclusive law firms. Among other distinctions, Akerman ranks among the top five U.S. law firms for Hispanic lawyers by *Law360* and among the top 40 U.S. law firms for female partners by *The American Lawyer*.

Click here to learn more on the <u>2018 Corporate</u> Equality Index.

About Akerman

Akerman LLP is a top 100 U.S. law firm recognized by *Financial Times* as among the most forward thinking firms in the industry. Its more than 650 lawyers and business professionals collaborate with the world's most successful enterprises and entrepreneurs to navigate change, seize opportunities, and overcome barriers to innovation and growth. Akerman is known for its results in middle market M&A and complex disputes, and for helping clients achieve their most important business objectives in the financial services, real estate, and other dynamic sectors across the United States and Latin America.