



**ALABAMA ATTORNEY GENERAL STRANGE'S STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO
U.S. SUPREME COURT DECISION ON SAME-SEX MARRIAGE**

(MONTGOMERY) - In response to the U.S. Supreme Court's decision declaring the traditional definition of marriage to be unconstitutional, Alabama Attorney General Luther Strange offered the following statement.

"Today the United States Supreme Court overturned centuries of tradition and the will of the citizens of a majority of the States in declaring that Alabama and the rest of the nation must legally recognize same-sex marriage," said Attorney General Strange.

"Chief Justice Roberts agreed with our amicus brief that 'a State's decision to maintain the meaning of marriage that has persisted in every culture throughout human history can hardly be called irrational.'

"While I do not agree with the opinion of the majority of the justices in their decision, I acknowledge that the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling is now the law of the land. Short of the passage of a Constitutional Amendment protecting marriage as between one man and one woman, the U.S. Supreme Court has the final say.

"But while the states are now required to recognize same-sex marriage, I expect the focus will now turn to the exercise of one's religious liberty. I will continue to defend the religious liberties of Alabamians and ensure that people and businesses honoring their religious beliefs are protected."

-30-

