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## ARMSTRONG TEASDALE EARNS EQUALITY 100 AWARD IN 2025 CORPORATE EQUALITY INDEX

Armstrong Teasdale is proud to announce that it met all of the criteria to earn a score of 100 on the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's 2025 Corporate Equality Index (CEI), the nation's foremost benchmarking survey and report measuring corporate policies and practices related to LGBTQ+ workplace equality. The firm joins the 765 U.S. businesses that will be honored with HRCF's **"Equality 100"** award as leaders in LGBTQ+ workplace inclusion.

This year's CEI includes 1,449 businesses – the highest number of rated companies since the start of the CEI in 2002.

"Armstrong Teasdale is committed to promoting a diverse legal profession both within our own firm as well as across the broader legal community, and that includes creating an environment where LGBTQ+ professionals can excel," said <u>Kenneth E. Sharperson</u>, Chief Diversity Officer. "Armstrong Teasdale is proud of the strides we have made, but we recognize that the work of creating a truly inclusive environment is ongoing. This recognition serves as both a milestone and a motivator, reinforcing our dedication to promoting equality and belonging across every aspect of our law firm."

"The CEI is so much more than a score on paper. For decades businesses have relied on the CEI as a tool for transparency and leveling the playing field for all workers, making sure LGBTQ+ people and their families can share in fair, respectful and supportive workplaces and benefits," said RaShawn "Shawnie" Hawkins, SHRM-CP, HRCF Senior Director of Workplace Equality. "As conversations evolve on corporate America's approach to diversity, equity and inclusion, year-over-year growth in CEI participation is evidence of a business community that largely recognizes the responsibility and value in upholding equity and inclusion."

The CEI rates employers providing crucial protections to more than 22 million U.S. workers and includes Fortune magazine's 500 largest publicly traded businesses, American Lawyer magazine's top 200 revenue-grossing law firms (Am Law 200), and hundreds of publicly and privately held mid- to large-sized businesses.

The CEI rates companies on detailed criteria falling under four central pillars:

• nondiscrimination policies across business entities;

## PEOPLE

Kenneth E. Sharperson



- equitable benefits for LGBTQ+ workers and their families;
- supporting an inclusive culture; and,
- corporate social responsibility.

The full report is available online at <u>www.hrc.org/cei</u>.