## **ALTA Press Release**



Contact: Wayne M. Stanley
Direct Office Line: 202-261-2932

Cell: 765-432-7094 Email: wstanley@alta.org

For Immediate Release



## **ALTA Statement on Supreme Court Marriage Ruling**

**Washington, D.C., June 26, 2015** — The <u>American Land Title Association</u> (ALTA), the national trade association of the land title insurance and real estate settlement services industries, released the following statement today following the U.S. Supreme Court's 5-4 ruling in favor of same-sex marriages in <u>Obergefell v. Hodges</u>:

"The U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Obergefell v. Hodges today has a significant impact on property rights," said Michelle Korsmo, ALTA's chief executive officer. "Our nation provides numerous protections for married couples that own property. In addition, the Supreme Court's opinion gives same-sex couples the ability to take title to real property as tenants by the entirety, which is the strongest way to hold title and is reserved for married couples."

"Today's decision helps eliminate confusion on determining property rights of same-sex couples who move to a state that previously did not recognize same-sex marriages," Korsmo added.

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## **About ALTA**

The American Land Title Association, founded in 1907, is the national trade association representing more than 5,500 title insurance companies, title and settlement agents, independent abstracters, title searchers, and real estate attorneys. With offices throughout the United States, ALTA members conduct title searches, examinations, closings, and issue title insurance that protects real property owners and mortgage lenders against losses from defects in titles.

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