



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

Sam Adams, Mayor
Amanda Fritz, Commissioner
Nick Fish, Commissioner
Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
Randy Leonard, Commissioner

October 19, 2012

Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
c/o Stamp Development
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 3300
Washington, DC 20260-3501

Re: Honor Harvey Milk with a U.S. Postage Stamp

Dear Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee,

We respectfully request that a commemorative stamp be issued soon honoring Harvey Milk and his work in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) movement for civil rights and equality. As the first openly gay man to be elected to public office in California, and as a member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Milk helped open the door for gays and lesbians in the United States by championing civil rights for homosexuals. Since Milk's murder in 1978, he has remained a symbol of activism for the LGBT community.

Harvey Milk began his career as a public servant in the United States Navy during the Korean War, where he served aboard the submarine rescue ship USS Kittiwake as a diving officer. He was later stationed at Naval Station, San Diego where he was a diving instructor. Milk, whose parents both also served in the U.S. Navy, was honorably discharged at the rank of Lieutenant, junior grade in 1955.

President Obama awarded Harvey Milk the 2009 Presidential Medal of Freedom. This is America's highest civilian honor, awarded to individuals who make an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interest of the United States, world peace, cultural or other significant public or private endeavors.

The former Governor of the State of California, Arnold Schwarzenegger, inducted Harvey Milk into the California Hall of Fame to honor his contribution to California saying he "embodies California's innovative spirit and has made a mark in history."

Harvey Milk is revered nationally and globally as a pioneer of the LGBT civil rights movement for his exceptional leadership and dedication to equal rights.

Please give serious consideration to this worthy cause. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sam Adams
Mayor

Dan Saltzman
Commissioner

Amanda Fritz
Commissioner

Randy Leonard
Commissioner

Nick Fish
Commissioner