Rock County to start issuing same-sex marriage licenses

By Meg Jones of the Journal Sentinel
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Rock County will become the third in Wisconsin to allow same-sex couples to marry.

Monday morning the Rock County clerk will begin issuing marriage licenses to all qualified couples after U.S. District Judge Barbara Crabb's ruling that the prohibition on same-sex vows in Wisconsin was unconstitutional. Once Crabb's announcement was made Friday afternoon, marriage licenses were issued in Milwaukee and Dane counties.

Rock County Clerk Lori Stottler said in an email that she can only issue marriage licenses to Rock County residents or out-of-state residents wishing to be married in Rock County. Proof of residency is required. Also needed: a certified copy of a birth certificate, photo ID and Social Security number for each applicant, and the name, address and phone number of the person who will officiate the wedding. Couples who want to waive the state-waiting period so they can take their marriage license directly to the officiant to get married on the same day must pay $120 in cash. Otherwise the marriage license application fee is $95.

If either applicant was previously married, the person must bring a copy of the final judgment of divorce, annulment or certified death certificate to prove how and when the last marriage ended. In Wisconsin it's unlawful to get remarried until six months and one day after a divorce is granted.
The Rock County Courthouse, 51 S. Main St. in Janesville, is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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