

## 2019 LGBTQ Interim Meeting highlights

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The Advisory Committee on LGBTQ Issues (LGBTQ) hosted its LGBTQ and allies caucus and reception on Friday, Nov. 15 at 5:00 p.m.

The program included keynote remarks on decriminalizing HIV by Scott Schoettes, JD. Mr. Schoettes, who lives openly with HIV, is counsel and the HIV project director at Lambda Legal. Lambda Legal is the oldest national organization committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of LGBTQ people and everyone living with HIV through impact litigation, education and public policy work. He highlighted cases involving discriminatory denial of employment and services based on a person's HIV status, as well as in the areas of access to care and privacy.

Also during the event, the LGBTQ Chair Shilpen Patel, MD announced an upcoming call for nominations for a new award that will recognize physicians, residents and medical students for excellence in LGBTQ health. The call for nominations will begin at the start of 2020.