Prior to his retirement last year, the Honorable Vaughn R. Walker was chief judge for the Northern District of California. Judge Walker served on the federal bench for 22 years. In 2010, Judge Walker presided over a three week trial on the constitutionality of California’s voter approved ban on same-sex marriage, known as Proposition 8. After hearing testimony from dozens of witnesses, Judge Walker authored an opinion striking down Proposition 8 under equal protection and due process grounds, along with 80 findings of fact and order about the importance of marriage as a social institution for all.

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