

# Vistaprint Sent Anti-Gay Pamphlets On Eve Of Wedding: Suit

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By **Christine Powell**

Law360, New York (January 16, 2018, 8:12 PM EST) -- A recently married gay couple sued Vistaprint in Massachusetts federal court Tuesday, claiming that the custom printing company sent them copies of a pamphlet containing passages “equating their relationship to Satan’s temptation” rather than the wedding programs they had ordered.

Stephen Heasley and Andrew Borg filed a complaint against Massachusetts-headquartered Vistaprint.com Inc., Vistaprint Corporate Solutions Inc. and parent company [Cimpress USA Inc.](#), asserting state law claims for discrimination, violation of constitutional rights and breach of contract.

In their complaint, the couple alleges that although the [U.S. Supreme Court](#) held in its landmark 2015 ruling in Obergefell v. Hodges that gay couples have a constitutional right to marry, “the assault on the rights of gay people who chose to get married carries on.”

Saying that Vistaprint engaged in its own attack on same-sex marriage, they noted that the high court is currently considering a closely watched case concerning whether the Christian owner of a Colorado bakeshop has a legal right under the First Amendment to refuse to bake a custom cake for a same-sex wedding.

According to their complaint, in September 2017, on the day before their wedding, Heasley and Borg opened a package from Vistaprint that was supposed to contain 100 copies of the custom wedding program they had ordered, which was to include an itinerary and information about their wedding party.

Instead, they found that Vistaprint had “shipped them approximately 80 copies of a discriminatory pamphlet entitled: ‘Understanding Temptation: Fight the good fight of the faith,’” the complaint said. “The pamphlets — plainly sent to threaten and attack Mr. Heasley and Mr. Borg because they are gay — warn, inter alia, that ‘Satan entices your flesh with evil desires’ and ‘[s]in is the result of your failure to resist the temptation. It is an act of rebellion against God’s holiness.’”

The couple, who included images of both the wedding programs they ordered and the pamphlets they received in their complaint, called Vistaprint’s conduct “morally repugnant.”

Michael J. Willemin of [Wigdor LLP](#), who represents Heasley and Borg, said in a statement Tuesday that “members of the LGBTQ community have been the subject of discrimination for far too long, and we are committed to holding Vistaprint and all companies who discriminate against members of the LGBTQ community accountable for their actions.”

In its own statement Tuesday, Vistaprint said that it had “just been made aware of this incident in the last few hours” and had already launched an internal investigation into the matter, noting “how upsetting it would be for anyone to receive materials such as these the night before their wedding.”

“Vistaprint would never discriminate against customers for their sexual orientation,” the company continued. “We pride ourselves on being a company that celebrates diversity and enables customers all over the world to customize products for their special events.”

Heasley and Borg live in Australia but were married in the U.S. and had their package from Vistaprint sent to Pennsylvania, near their wedding venue, according to the complaint.

Heasley and Borg are represented by Elizabeth S. Dillon and Brian D. Fishman of [Cetrulo LLP](#), and David E. Gottlieb and Michael J. Willemin of Wigdor LLP.

Counsel information for Vistaprint was not immediately available.

The case is Heasley et al. v. Vistaprint Corporate Solutions Inc. et al., case number [1:18-cv-10076](#), in the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

--Editing by Adam LoBelia.

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