TV Spot: **Same Sex Marriage**
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UNIBAM has been in constant fight to legalize sexual relationships between same sex in Belize. Eight months ago in April of this year, Caleb Orozco and the United Belize Advocacy Movement known as UNIBAM, suffered a setback in their challenge of section 53 of Belize's criminal code when the judge in the case Michelle Arana struck off UNIBAM as a claimant in the case. Section 53 dicates it a criminal offence for same sex intercourse, objecting it carnal intercourse against the order of nature. However, Orozco and UNIBAM were contending that the law contravenes their constitutional rights to human dignity and fundamental rights and freedoms. The move to have UNIBAM struck off was one of the primary applications made by the church as an interested party in the proceedings. Nonetheless UNIBAM and its president Caleb Orozco are persistent if nothing else, and so when the case came back to court yesterday for a continuation of the preliminaries, UNIBAM achieved a rush back. According to Orozco who is the first claimant in the case, UNIBAM is now on equal standing as the churches, having been accepted as an interested party in the case.

Orozco and UNIBAM are being represented in court by a team of attorneys headed by Senior Counsel Lisa Shoman, and include Westman James, Simeon Sampson and Chris Hamel Smith legally represents Orozco and UNIBAM. The legal team for the churches is headed by Senior Counsel Michel Chebat.

And while Orozco and UNIBAM fight for legalization of sexual relationships between same sex in Belize, Mexico's Supreme Court ruled on Tuesday December 4, 2012 that all 31 states must recognize same-sex marriages performed in the capital, though its decision does not force those states to begin marrying gay couples in their territory.

In a 9-2 decision, the tribunal cited an article of the constitution requiring states to recognize legal contracts drawn up elsewhere.

It did not specify what degree of recognition must be granted to same-sex couples.

Mexico City's same-sex marriage law, enacted in March, extends to wedded gay couples the right to adopt children, to jointly apply for bank loans, to inherit wealth and to be covered by their spouses' insurance policies. Some of those may end up applying only in the capital.

The Supreme Court ruled last week that same-sex weddings are constitutional – though it is holding separate discussions this week on the adoption clause.

One of the justices, Sergio Aguirre, argued against adoptions by same-sex couples Tuesday, saying children might suffer discrimination as a result.