

# ARLENE ZAREMBKA AND ZULEYMA TANG-MARTINEZ

MARRIED 9 YEARS • TOGETHER 31 YEARS

## ARLENE AND ZULEYMA

Arlene is an attorney in St. Louis. Zuleyma is an award-winning professor of biology at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

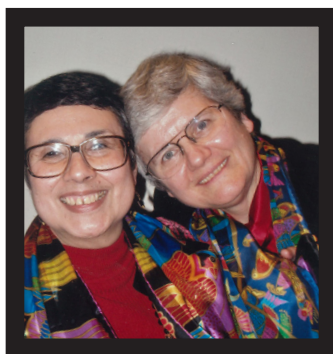
## HOW THEY MET

Arlene and Zuleyma met in 1983 when a mutual friend gave them a ride to a political event. Their chemistry was instant. As the day-long event wound down, people were already asking if they were a couple. Three days later, Zuleyma asked Arlene to dinner and the rest is history.

## WHY MARRIAGE MATTERS

As partners in a committed relationship spanning more than thirty years, Arlene and Zuleyma are disappointed that the law does not acknowledge their relationship. They seek legal recognition so that they too can share equally in the privileges Missouri provides other spouses.

In 2013, Arlene applied, as Zuleyma's spouse, for Social Security spousal benefits. Because Missouri does not recognize legal marriages between same-sex couples, the application has not been approved. Eligibility for spousal Social Security benefits is determined by whether the state of residence recognizes a couple's marriage.



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## FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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