

# TRAILBLAZERS

## EQUALITY

AMY QUARTAROLO  
LATHAM & WATKINS LLP



**PIONEER SPIRIT** Amy Quartarolo strives to serve as an ally and to speak up for people who may not otherwise possess the resources or tools to access the legal system. “It has been very important to work with organizations like Equality California to make equality not just something that we aspire to but something we actively are working toward,” she says. “We try to give a voice to those who might otherwise go unheard.”

**TRAILS BLAZED** Quartarolo has worked to build relationships with such organizations and to identify where lawyers can add value. Those opportunities include taking a lead role in *Stockman v. Trump*, one of four lawsuits filed in response to the Trump administration’s transgender military service ban. Under Quartarolo’s leadership, Latham, along with the National Center for Lesbian Rights and GLAD, is representing EQCA and seven transgender individuals who are currently serving or seeking to enlist in the military. Currently the team is preparing for trial in 2020. She also worked with EQCA on the Safe and Supportive Schools Report Card: “We collectively developed and rolled out a survey to all 343 unified school districts in California gauging LGBTQ support and resources. It can now serve as a tool that parents and other advocates use to see if their school district is doing everything it can to be a safe and supportive environment.”

**FUTURE EXPLORATIONS** “While we can’t say with certainty what they will be, there are certain to be challenges going forward. But each challenge presents an opportunity for not only LGBTQ individuals but also allies to speak up and pursue equality.”