

# The New York Times

## Real Estate Q&A

Expert Advice for Owners and Renters



### Adding ‘Partners’ to Co-op Shares

By JAY ROMANO

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**Q.** *What rights does being registered as “domestic partners” in New York City convey in regard to real estate? I moved into my partner’s co-op five years ago, but the board refuses to add my name to the shares and proprietary lease.*

**A.** Adam Leitman Bailey, a Manhattan real estate lawyer, said that depending on what the proprietary lease or bylaws provide, a co-op may be under no obligation to allow a spouse or domestic partner to be added to the title. He says the Domestic Partnership Registration law does not override the board’s power.