

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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First Law Center in California Dedicated to Transgender Legal Issues Launches in San Francisco

Report Released on the Legal Needs of San Francisco's Transgender Community

WHAT: Official launch celebration for the Transgender Law Center
Entertainment by the Transcendence Gospel Choir
Light food and beverages will be served

WHEN: Wednesday, May 14, 2003, 6:30 - 8:30pm

WHERE: SF LGBT Community Center
1800 Market St. @ Octavia
Ceremonial Room (4th Floor)

SAN FRANCISCO — Having been in formation for nearly a year, the Transgender Law Center (TLC), a major new legal resource for California's transgender communities, officially launches on May 14th. With the support of LGBT and progressive organizations and foundations, TLC heralds an evolution in the LGBT movement towards creating increasingly sophisticated resources dedicated to advancing legal protections for transgender people.

To mark the opening, TLC is releasing a first-of-its-kind legal needs assessment report to provide a snapshot of the legal challenges facing members of San Francisco's transgender communities, *Trans Realities*. With nearly 50% of survey respondents reporting incidences of employment discrimination, more than 30% reporting discrimination in a place of public accommodation, and 30% reporting that they have experienced housing discrimination the need for a transgender specific legal organization has never been more clear.

About the Transgender Law Center

The Transgender Law Center (TLC) is a civil rights organization advocating for transgender communities. Every day, TLC connects transgender people to technically sound and culturally competent legal services, increases acceptance and enforcement of laws and policies that support California's transgender communities, and works to change laws and systems that fail to incorporate the needs and experiences of diverse transgender communities. www.transgenderlawcenter.org

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