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HOUSING RIGHTS CENTER AND PEACE OVER VIOLENCE PRESENT WEBINAR ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND DISABILITY RIGHTS IN HOUSING

LOS ANGELES, CA – The Housing Rights Center (HRC) and Peace Over Violence (POV) will present a free one-hour webinar addressing how sexual harassment and disability intersect in housing. **“The Intersections of Disability and Violence in Housing”** will take place on September 3, 2021 at 2:00 PM PST. American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation will be provided. Registration is open now at www.housingrightscenter.org/workshops.

“People with disabilities are more likely to be targeted by perpetrators of sexual violence, whether by family, caretakers, strangers, or housing providers, especially during the pandemic,” said Susan Lin, Program Manager for HRC’s sexual harassment education program. “Fair housing laws provide the right to live free from sexual harassment by housing providers, as well as from any unfair treatment based on disability. We want to show people that they are not alone, that they have rights, and that if they need help, accessible services are available.”

The webinar will empower residents, service providers, and housing providers alike to recognize and combat sexual violence in housing. Lin will present on protections against sexual and domestic violence under the Fair Housing Act, the Violence Against Women Act, and California law. Demara Folk, a clinical case manager for POV, will present on the unique services required people who are D/deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind, and POV Project Director Peggie Reyna will share POV’s range of services for older adults and people with disabilities.

The event is part of a year-long project by HRC to provide community education about sexual harassment and assault as a form of sex-based discrimination under the federal Fair Housing

Act. The webinar is HRC's second joint webinar with POV; the first, on December 4, 2020, provided an overview of the history of advocacy for survivors of sexual violence. This event will build on the last by offering a closer look at the rights of deaf and disabled survivors, as well as older adults.

POV is social service agency dedicated to building healthy relationships, families, and communities free from sexual, domestic, and interpersonal violence. It provides services in English, Spanish and ASL. For more information about POV, please visit www.peaceoverviolence.org. If you are a survivor in need of aid, please call POV's 24/7 LA Rape & Battering Hotline at 310-392-8381 (TTY: 213-626-3393).

For more information on the Housing Rights Center and its free services, visit www.housingrightscenter.org or call 1-800-477-5977 (TTY: 213-201-0867). Follow HRC on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to stay updated on housing news.

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The Housing Rights Center is a non-profit organization established in 1968 to actively support and promote equal opportunity and freedom of residence to all persons without regard to their race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, familial status, disability, marital status, ancestry, age, source of income, or other characteristics protected by law. HRC engages in activities including outreach and education, testing and investigation, and legal advocacy to identify barriers to fair housing and to counteract and eliminate discriminatory housing practices in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

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