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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HOUSING RIGHTS CENTER OFFERS NEW VIRTUAL SERVICES
TO UPDATE TENANTS AND LANDLORDS ON COVID-19 CRISIS**

[CALIFORNIA, OCTOBER 2020] — The Housing Rights Center has responded to the challenge of providing vital information during the COVID-19 pandemic with a bevy of new educational services offered virtually every week. As the health crisis and its devastating economic impacts go on, tenants and landlords need more than ever to be informed about state, county, and local housing policies. Although its offices are still closed to the public, HRC’s vital services are available both online and over the phone.

In addition to its regular suite of free services—including landlord-tenant counseling, discrimination investigation, and fair housing education—HRC is now offering Housing Rights Workshops in English and Spanish, as well as weekly webinars to update the public on new tenant protections and housing legislation related to COVID-19. HRC is actively monitoring the rapid developments in tenant protection laws during this crisis and working to keep community members and partners informed of new policies.

“Nearly 500,000 evictions are expected in the Los Angeles area as temporary relief measures expire, which could result in a surge in homelessness,” said Elana Eden, Director of Media, Outreach & Education. “The demands on tenants to avoid eviction are complicated, but HRC is here to help tenants protect themselves and keep their homes during this difficult time.”

To expand access to crucial services and information, HRC has introduced counseling by appointment. Tenants and landlords can now speak to a trained housing counselor either by calling HRC’s Housing Rights Hotline, or by scheduling a personal appointment at outreach@housingrightscenter.org.

For more information, please 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. The Center engages in activities – including outreach/education, investigation/testing and legal advocacy – to identify barriers to fair housing in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties and to help counteract and eliminate discriminatory housing practices.

This material is based on work supported by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under FHIP Grant FPEI186049-01-01. Any opinion, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of HUD.