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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Civil Rights and Religious Leaders Join Lawyers for Pre-Hearing Press Conference on Prop 8 Legal Challenge

SAN FRANCISCO (March 2, 2009)—A press conference will be held immediately prior to Thursday's California Supreme Court oral arguments in the Prop 8 legal challenge. Attorneys will argue that by taking away a right only from one group, Proposition 8 violates the most basic principle of our government: that all people are entitled to equal treatment under the law.

What: Pre-Hearing Press Conference on Prop 8 legal challenge

When: Thursday, March 5 at 7:30 a.m.

Who:

- S.F. City Attorney Dennis Herrera, Santa Clara County Counsel Ann Ravel, and other public attorneys
- Kate Kendall, Executive Director, National Center for Lesbian Rights
- Eva Paterson, President, Equal Justice Society, amici
- The Rev. Art Cribbs, United Church of Christ, amici
- Lisa Cisneros, California Rural Legal Assistance, amici
- Gloria Allred, attorney and partner, Allred, Maroko and Goldberg, representing plaintiffs
Robin Tyler & Diane Olson
- Jennifer Pizer, Marriage Project Director, Lambda Legal
- Geoff Kors, Executive Director, Equality California
- Anthony D. Romero, Executive Director, the American Civil Liberties Union

Where: South Light Court, City Hall, San Francisco, California 94102
(Enter the building at the Grove Street entrance across the street from the Department of Public Health)

The press conference will conclude by 7:50 a.m. Oral arguments begin at 9:00 a.m. in the California Supreme Court, on the Fourth Floor of 350 McAllister Street in San Francisco. The court, in the Earl Warren State Office Building, is located directly across the street from the Civic Center Plaza, diagonally across from City Hall. The California Channel will broadcast the hearing live. For details, visit <http://www.calchannel.com/carriage.htm>.

Please note a second press conference will take place outside the courthouse immediately following the hearing.

The cases are *Strauss et al. v. Horton et al.* (S168047); *Tyler v. California et al* (S168066; and *CCSF v. Horton* (S168078). For more information, go to: <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courts/supreme/highprofile/prop8.htm>

Interviews in Spanish and Mandarin available.