



CALIFORNIA STATE CONFERENCE OF THE NAACP

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE!!

CALIFORNIA NAACP TO HOST “CIVIL RIGHTS AND MARRIAGE EQUALITY” A FORUM ON SAME GENDER MARRIAGE

(Los Angeles, CA).....The California State Conference of the NAACP is hosting a Town Hall meeting on Civil Rights and Marriage Equality: a Forum on Same Gender Marriage to be held on Wednesday, October 1, 2008 at the University of Southern California, Davidson Conference Center, Embassy Room, 3415 South Figueroa Street in Los Angeles from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Former Speaker of the California Assembly and former Mayor of San Francisco, Attorney Willie Brown, will moderate a lively discussion between panelists and audience regarding this civil rights issue. Doug Spearman, actor in the upcoming movie, Noah's Arc, Jumping the Broom and Rev. Eric Lee, President of SCLC of Greater Los Angeles will also share their perspectives.

The California NAACP State President, Alice Huffman, stated, “ When the California Supreme Court ruled that same-sex couples have the same right to benefits of a civil marriage as opposite-sex couples, the NAACP hailed this as a fair ruling that advances the cause of social justice and equality to all citizens of California. The NAACP advocates that equality under the law is the right of all people no matter the racial background, ethnic identity, religious beliefs, and gender of the individual. This philosophy is important to share with our brothers and sisters in the African American community.”

...MORE.

CA NAACP – SAME GENDER MARRIAGE FORUM

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The California NAACP is working with its local branches and partnering with the National Black Justice Coalition (NBJC) and other community based organizations to present a forum focusing on the African American community to increase support for equality in marriage and to discuss this issue and the ramifications on families and their loved ones. Huffman further stated, “This forum is the first of its kind in the Los Angeles African American community and we look forward to a lively, profound, and intellectual discussion of an issue that affects many African American families.”

The California State Conference of the NAACP is working with the National Black Justice Coalition (NBJC) on the “Marriage Justice Project” to educate the African American communities about the law and potential civil rights violations. The project will include a series of public forums/town halls, media events, advertising, and electronic communications to engage the African American community throughout California in an open discussion on marriage equality.

For more information on the October 1st Town Hall, please contact Sharon Bacon at (916) 498-1898 or (916) 503-1370.

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MEDIA WILL BE ACCOMMODATED