



For Immediate Release

The Equal Rights Center Names New Executive Director

WASHINGTON, D.C., September 2, 2008 – The Equal Rights Center (ERC), a non-profit civil rights organization, today announced the appointment of a new Executive Director, Donald L. Kahl.

Kahl has been serving as the ERC's Chief Operating Officer (COO) for the last seven months. As COO, Kahl managed and supervised the day-to-day operations of the ERC, including strategic planning, financial administration, management of personnel, and institutional development. Kahl's service as COO created the opportunity for a seamless leadership transition, allowing retiring Executive Director, Rabbi Bruce E. Kahn, to return to his position on the ERC Board of Directors.

"I am both humbled and proud to be able to assume leadership of the ERC from Rabbi Kahn," Kahl said. "He leaves a dynamic and forward thinking civil rights organization behind. I look forward to the ERC's challenges in the coming years—there is much to do."

Kahl brings years of management experience to his new position. During his 22-year tenure at a large, mid-South law firm, he served for 15 years as a Director and Senior Litigation Partner and participated in numerous firm management committees. Immediately before joining the ERC, Kahl served as Senior Counsel to the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights & Urban Affairs where he regularly advised the ERC on a broad scope of matters.

"I cannot imagine anyone better qualified to take the helm of the ERC than Don Kahl," Kahn stated confidently. "When it comes to advancing civil rights understanding and compliance in D.C. and around the country, the ERC has created an exceptional and enviable record. Don Kahl will advance our record to even greater heights."

This year the ERC is celebrating 25 years of protecting civil rights. Originally established in 1983 as the Fair Housing Council of Greater Washington, following subsequent mergers with the Fair Employment Council of Greater Washington and the Disability Rights Council, the ERC is today dedicated to identifying, challenging, and eliminating discrimination in housing, employment, public accommodations, and government services through education, research, testing, counseling, enforcement and advocacy.

For more information contact:

Natalie Laber, Communications and Outreach Manager
202-234-3062 (o)
202-365-1040 (c)
nlaber@equalrightscenter.org

###