



For Immediate Release

Ashley White, Equal Rights Center, 202.370.3204

awhite@equalrightscenter.org

Equal Rights Center Names New Testing Manager

WASHINGTON, D.C., August X, 2010— Today the [Equal Rights Center](http://www.equalrightscenter.org) (ERC)—a national non-profit civil rights organization—announced the appointment of a new Testing Manager, Chip Underwood.

“Civil Rights Testing is an essential element in assisting the Equal Rights Center in furthering our mission to advance civil rights across our nation and we are very proud to announce the appointment of Chip Underwood as our new Testing Manager,” said the ERC’s Executive Director, Don Kahl. “Throughout his professional career, and his time working in the ERC’s Fair Housing Program, Chip has demonstrated a strong commitment to civil rights and to testing. We know his experience will only strengthen the ERC’s testing program.”

In his new role as Testing Manager, Underwood will be responsible for developing and implementing testing initiatives and procedures to identify potential violations of the federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in housing, lending, public accommodations, and employment. Underwood will also be responsible for recruiting, screening, training, and managing testers both locally and throughout the nation.

“After spending several years with the organization, I am very excited to take on the position of Testing Manager with the Equal Rights Center,” said Underwood. “I look forward to growing and advancing the extensive testing program the ERC employs to further civil rights across the country.”

The ERC’s civil rights testing is integral to investigative efforts and allows the ERC to quantitatively document rates of discrimination—exposing discrimination that is often not recognized by a single individual. The ERC has more than 100 trained testers who are available for academic research, problem identification and documentation, investigative work, and enforcement.

Underwood assumes the post of Testing Manager after serving as the ERC’s Fair Housing Program Coordinator. With more than seven years experience in civil rights testing and test coordination, Underwood has tested on behalf of the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, National Fair Housing Alliance, and the ERC’s Fair Housing Program. Underwood brings an expertise in all aspects of rental, sales, lending and Accessible Design and Construction testing. Underwood is currently pursuing a Master’s Degree in Public Policy—Social Justice from George Mason University, and holds a B.S degree in Business and Management from Johns Hopkins University.

About the Equal Rights Center (www.equalrightscenter.org)

Originally formed in 1983, the Equal Rights Center (ERC) is a national non-profit civil rights organization based in Washington, D.C. With members located in 33 states and the District of Columbia, the ERC works nationally to promote equal opportunity in housing, employment, disability rights, immigrant rights, and access to public accommodations and government services for all protected classes under federal, state, and local laws.