

For Immediate Release

Ashley White, Equal Rights Center, 202.370.3204 awhite@equalrightscenter.org

Equal Rights Center Encourages Department of Justice to Challenge Arizona Immigration Law

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 29, 2010– Today the <u>Equal Rights Center</u> (ERC)—a national non-profit civil rights organization— released the following statement in regard to Attorney General Eric Holder's statement that the U.S. Department of Justice would consider challenging Arizona new immigration statue in court.

"The increasing politicization of immigration reform has yet again resulted in a law that will undoubtedly lead to civil rights violations. Opposition to this new draconian law that subjects Arizona residents and visitors to proving their identity and citizenship upon 'reasonable suspicion' has been heard across the nation from advocates, businesses, and immigrants alike. This law's approach will almost certainly lead to racial profiling, greater isolation of the Latino community as a whole, and the violation of the constitutional rights of many. The ERC applauds Attorney General Holder and the U.S. Department of Justice for commencing an immediate review of the legality of this new law, and hope the result is a legal challenge that strikes down this heavy-handed attempt at immigration reform."

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About the Equal Rights Center (<u>www.equalrightscenter.org</u>)

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.