



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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REPORT TO U.N. ADDRESSES U.S. LEGACY OF HOUSING SEGREGATION

DALLAS - In preparation for an upcoming U.N. review of United States compliance with the international race discrimination treaty, **Inclusive Communities Project**, a Dallas based non-profit organization which focuses on race and housing issues, has joined a coalition of more than 40 housing and civil rights organizations and scholars in a report detailing the continuing problem of racial discrimination and segregation in housing.

“The issue of housing segregation, particularly in the context of segregation of low income people of color, has been a prominent focus of civil rights litigation in Dallas for over 20 years,” said Betsy Julian, President of ICP, and former co-counsel in the Walker v. DHA, et al public housing desegregation litigation filed in 1985 challenging the racially dual public housing program operated by the City of Dallas Housing Authority. “Attempts to desegregate Dallas schools have historically been negatively impacted by the failure to address the issue of residential segregation both in the City of Dallas and throughout the Dallas metropolitan area. The CERD Report recognizes that these issues and the challenges they present are ongoing and are national in scope. ICP is pleased to be a part of this important work.”

The report, titled *Residential Segregation and Housing Discrimination in the United States*, was submitted to the U.N. Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) in preparation for the CERD Committee’s February 2008 review of U.S. compliance with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD). The U.S. ratified the CERD treaty in 1994, and the U.S. State Department issued its most recent report to the CERD Committee this past April – over four years late.

The coalition’s report details the ways in which current U.S. policy continues to promote racial segregation in housing, and it also addresses recent cutbacks in fair housing enforcement, and the government’s role in the sub-prime lending crisis.

The report is one of more than a dozen reports on criminal justice, education, health, poverty and voting rights being submitted to the CERD Committee today by the U.S. Human Rights Network on the occasion of International Human Rights Day, to highlight the growing importance of international human rights standards in the U.S.

The report is available at the Resource page at www.inclusivecommunities.net or you may contact ICP at 214-939-9239 for a hard copy of the Report.

Inclusive Communities Project

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