



Fair Housing Council of Orange County

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FAIR HOUSING COUNCIL OF ORANGE COUNTY SEEKS NOMINATIONS FROM THE HOUSING INDUSTRY FOR 6th ANNUAL FAIR HOUSING LEADERSHIP AWARDS

SANTA ANA, CALIF., February 1, 2006...The Fair Housing Council of Orange County announced today that the non-profit agency is now accepting nominations and sponsorships from the housing industry for its 6th Annual Fair Housing Leadership Awards which will take place on April 28, 2006. April is National Fair Housing Month and the Fair Housing Council is celebrating this important month with a luncheon that will honor individuals and organizations who have taken positive action to affirmatively further fair housing in Orange County. The event is scheduled to take place from 11:30am to 2pm on April 28, at the Turnip Rose, Grand Newport Plaza, in Costa Mesa, Calif. This year's keynote speaker will be Orange County Supervisor Lou Correa who represents the 1st District which includes the cities of Garden Grove, Santa Ana, Westminster, Midway City and other unincorporated county land.

This is the 6th Annual Fair Housing Leadership Awards Luncheon and the agency will present awards in six categories to recognize a broad scope of organizations and businesses in the housing industry for their work to foster diversity and promote fair housing. The Fair Housing Council will present Fair Housing Leadership Awards to organizations or individuals in the following six categories: **Advertising**; **Home Building Industry** (including builders, developers and construction companies); **Lending Industry** (including banks, mortgage companies, lenders and title companies); **Real Estate Sales**; the **Rental Housing Industry** (including property managers and owners, property management companies, rental property developers, multi-family housing providers and community-based agencies that support fair housing) and the **Nonprofit Housing Industry**. The award recognizes and honors individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions that support the spirit and letter of Fair Housing laws which they have demonstrated through deeds, business policies, or other means.

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Fair Housing Council's Leadership Awards 2-2-2

All members of the housing industry in Orange County are encouraged to nominate an organization or individual or make a self-nomination by submitting the company name, contact information and supportive documents to the Fair Housing Council of Orange County, 201 S. Broadway, Santa Ana, Calif. 92701. Selection criteria for nominations and nomination forms are available by calling Connie Der Torossian at the Fair Housing Council at 714/569-0823x217. Participants are encouraged to submit materials that demonstrate their commitment to fair housing which can include brochures, marketing materials, advertisements and other documents in support of their nomination. In addition, self nominations are encouraged. ***The deadline to return nomination forms is March 24, 2006.*** The Fair Housing Council also seeks sponsors for this prestigious housing industry event. Support from the housing industry is key to the success of the event and also benefits supporting organizations by garnering them with national recognition and positive exposure in the housing industry. Sponsorship benefits also include complimentary tickets and VIP seating at the event; and recognition as a sponsor on invitations, advertisements, in the FHCOOC newsletter and all marketing materials. **The deadline to sponsor the event is March 3, 2006.** For more information or to obtain sponsorship forms, contact Connie Der Torossian at the Fair Housing Council of Orange County at 714/569-0823 x217 or visit www.fairhousingoc.org.

About the Fair Housing Council of Orange County

The Fair Housing Council of Orange County is a private non-profit organization formed in 1965 in the wake of the civil rights movement that resulted in the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The agency incorporated in 1968, the same year that Congress extended civil rights protections to cover housing with the adoption of the Fair Housing Act. Under the direction of a 14-member volunteer board of directors and with a paid staff of 16, it works to fulfill a mission to protect the quality of life in Orange County by ensuring equal access to housing opportunities, fostering diversity and preserving dignity and human rights. Contracting with all of Orange County's local governments to provide fair housing and landlord tenant counseling services for their residents, the agency provides comprehensive community education, individual counseling, mediation, low-cost advocacy and handles more than 1,000 issues concerning housing discrimination in the county each year. The Fair Housing Council also recently expanded its services to include comprehensive educational programs for housing providers, property managers, lenders, real estate professionals and consumers. The Fair Housing Council provides about 275 community outreach presentations annually. For more

information, call 800/698-FAIR or 714/569-0823 or visit www.fairhousingoc.org.

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