FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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MEDIA CONTACT:  
Theresa Sparks, HRC Director (415) 252-2500  
David Miree, Esq. Social Justice and Policy Analyst and Communications (415) 252-2502  

***** STATEMENT*****

San Francisco Human Rights Commission Director Reflects on the Observance of Transgender Day of Remembrance

San Francisco, CA - San Francisco Human Rights Commission Executive Director Theresa Sparks issued the following statement in regards to the 15th Annual Transgender Day of Remembrance:

“Although 2013 has been a year where the LGBT Community has witnessed great achievements and in-roads toward equality and acceptance, this day serves as a reminder that there is still much to be done especially as the Transgender Community continues to fight for tolerance and basic human rights.

As San Francisco often leads the nation in challenging the status quo, this Day of Remembrance must also serve as a ‘call to action’ to collectively stand firm and reject the current injustice, intolerance, and violence, including death, which continues to plague the Transgender Community. Additionally, as San Francisco was the Founding City for the Transgender Day of Remembrance, we must together lead the fight to make these events unnecessary.

I am pleased to join in with my friends and colleagues across our great nation as we recognize these often unsung heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice so that others may live unrestricted and enjoy the guaranteed freedoms and civil liberties that all American citizens may enjoy equally and unfettered and without regard to their gender expression or gender identity. “

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The San Francisco Human Rights Commission was established in 1964 by City Ordinance and became a Charter Commission in 1990. In 2014 the HRC will celebrate 50 years of distinguished public service in human rights advocacy for the City and County of San Francisco.