MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS CONFERENCE: ASIAN FAITH LEADERS TO SPEAK OUT IN SUPPORT OF LESBIAN AND GAY FAMILIES AND EQUALITY

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUPPORT IS A HISTORIC FIRST

SAN FRANCISCO, THURSDAY, MAY 31, 2007—Several prominent Asian American faith leaders in the Bay Area will announce their public support of lesbian and gay families and equality at a press conference in San Francisco's Chinatown on Thursday, May 31, 2007, from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. The event will mark the first time a coalition of Asian American faith leaders speaks out in support of lesbian and gay families and equality in California.

What: A coalition of Asian American faith leaders from the Bay Area will announce their public support for lesbian and gay families and equality at a press conference in San Francisco's Chinatown to coincide with the end of API Heritage Month and the start of LGBT Pride Month. Confirmed speakers for the event include: Rev. Calvin Chinn, Rev. Jeffrey Kuan, Rev. John Oda, Rev. Deborah Lee, Rev. Elizabeth Leung, and Rev. Michael Yoshii.

Where: Chinese for Affirmative Action (17 Walter U. Lum Place in San Francisco's Chinatown)

When: Thursday, May 31, 2007, from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Who: The press conference is jointly organized by the Network on Religion and Justice for Asian American and Pacific Islander Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People (NRJ-API-LGBT) and API Equality.

Why: The event will come just three years after Mayor Gavin Newsom issued marriage licenses to same-sex couples in San Francisco in February 2004. Many Asian American faith leaders and congregations have since affirmed the dignity and spiritual wholeness of lesbian and gay people. However, this event will mark the first time a coalition of Asian American faith leaders will speak out in support of lesbian and gay families and equality in California.

NRJ-API-LGBT is a coalition of organizations and individuals affirming the dignity and spiritual wholeness of API LGBT people of faith and working to create visibility and connection, to educate and advocate, and to transform both faith communities and the larger world.

API Equality is a statewide project committed to working in our Asian and Pacific Islander American communities for equal marriage rights and fair treatment of LGBT families through education and advocacy.

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