



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** December 6, 2016

**CONTACT:** Seth Hoy, [shoy@cchr.nyc.gov](mailto:shoy@cchr.nyc.gov), 212-416-0156

**NYC COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS PARTNERS WITH UNIVISION NEW YORK, OTHER MEDIA, AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS ON 3-DAY “KNOW YOUR RIGHTS” PHONE-A-THON TO ADDRESS DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT CONCERNS FROM SPANISH-SPEAKING NEW YORKERS**

*Commission joins Univision New York, El Diario, Radio WADO, New York Immigration Coalition, Catholic Charities, NY State Office for New Americans, and others to answer questions about discrimination and harassment facing our city’s immigrant and other concerned communities who are the target of hateful speech and incidents*

*Spanish-speaking New Yorkers can call 1-800-566-7636 from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. December 6 - 8 to ask questions concerning their communities*

**New York** – Today, the NYC Commission on Human Rights joins Univision New York, *El Diario*, Radio WADO, New York Immigration Coalition, Catholic Charities, the NY State Office for New Americans and others for a 3-day phone-a-thon to answer questions about issues impacting the city’s diverse communities post-election, especially immigrants, and inform concerned New Yorkers about their rights under the NYC Human Rights Law which protects against discrimination and harassment in employment, housing, and public accommodations. The phone-a-thon will run from December 6-8 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and people can call 1-800-566-7636 to ask their questions.

“New York City has always been a welcoming city for all people,” said **Mayor Bill de Blasio**. “Diverse communities across the city remain concerned about how the new administration in Washington D.C will affect their families. This timely phone-a-thon, thanks to Univision New York and partners, will answer many of those questions and give concerned communities the resources and information they need to report discrimination and harassment. New York City has and always will protect its communities.”

“No one in New York City should feel unsafe or threatened because of their cultural identity, their faith, country of origin, or immigration status,” said **Commissioner and Chair of the NYC Commission on Human Rights Carmelyn P. Malalis**. “The Commission is using every resource at its disposal to ensure that every community has the information and tools they need to remain free from discrimination and harassment. We hope this phone-a-thon reassures concerned communities that New York City has your back and fights daily to your rights and the rights of your families.”

“It is vital that our communities have access to trusted resources where their questions can be answered and concerns can be addressed, and Univision New York is committed to providing families and individuals with that access,” said **Senior Vice President and General Manager of Univision New York Ramon Pineda**. “We are pleased to partner with the NYC Commission on Human Rights and other leading groups to fulfill our commitment of informing and empowering our community.”

The “Know Your Rights” phone-a-thon will be staffed by Spanish-speaking staff and volunteers from the participating agencies and organizations. The phone-a-thon will offer people a channel for information sharing and an opportunity for participating entities to listen to the concerns of our communities, answer their questions and provide them with information on resources and assistance available across New York City and beyond. Univision New York, WADO 1280, and *El Diario* have promoted the phone-a-thon over the last week on air and on social media.

The NYC Commission on Human Rights enforces the NYC Human Rights Law, one of the strongest city anti-discrimination laws in the nation, which protects people from discrimination and harassment across 22 board categories, including race, color, religion/creed, age, national origin, alienage or citizenship status, gender (including sexual harassment), gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, pregnancy, marital status, and partnership status, among others. The law also prohibits retaliation, bias-based profiling, and discriminatory harassment.

Following the election, the Commission has increased its outreach to concerned communities, such as Muslim, immigrant, and LGBT communities, to educate them on their rights and ensure they have the resources and tools they need to report acts of discrimination. The Commission will also be hosting listening sessions with organizations serving these communities in the weeks ahead to understand their needs and concerns and will launch additional workshops and forums with elected officials so communities can ask questions and understand their rights. The Commission also set up a resource page [www.NYC.gov/NYCValues](http://www.NYC.gov/NYCValues) after the election with information targeted to concerned communities, including a multilingual list of resources by the Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs and The City Council for NYC immigrants.

If you or anyone you know has been the victim of discrimination, call the 311 and ask for Human Rights or the Commission’s Infoline at 718-722-3131.

###