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**Cancer Rights Conference in Chicago Helps Survivors, Caregivers
Cope With Health Insurance and Other Legal Issues**

LOS ANGELES—The Cancer Legal Resource Center is hosting a Cancer Rights Conference on Friday, June 24 at the Courtyard Marriott Downtown Chicago, Ill. More than 200 patients, survivors, caregivers and healthcare professionals will attend the free conference to receive information and resources on cancer-related legal issues.

To help people with cancer, legal experts will give presentations at the conference on the following topics: Employment & Taking Time Off Work; Disability Insurance; Health Insurance and Health Care Options; Insurance Navigation and Appeals; Understanding Health Care Reform; Genetics & the Law; Legislative Advocacy; Education Rights of Children and Young Adults with Cancer; Financial Planning.

A cancer diagnosis can drop individuals into a maze of legal issues, such as obtaining and keeping health, disability and life insurance; access to quality care; government benefits (e.g., Medicaid, Medicare, disability insurance, unemployment, paid family leave, etc.); retaining and obtaining employment; taking time off work; managing the financial impact of cancer care; and estate planning.

Fighting these legal battles causes people who have been diagnosed with cancer unnecessary confusion and stress, robbing them of vital energy they need to focus on their health. Moreover, those who are not informed of their legal rights, such as taking time off work and insurance options, are delaying crucial diagnostic tests or treatment to which they are entitled under the law. Survivors who are unaware of their rights may end up in a disastrous financial position—having lost their jobs, insurance, homes and even their family.

One cancer survivor at the 2010 conference in Los Angeles wrote: “Thank you so much for this generous conference and for lunch. I had so many questions that were answered, and of course many more were sparked by this conference. I now know where to look for help and also now have the knowledge to direct others. Also being diagnosed with a rare cancer—I have felt so overwhelmed and the information here has been invaluable.”

Healthcare professionals will pass information learned at the conference on to patients, survivors and caregivers. Often, the oncology practitioner is the first one asked about legal issues by a patient. A registered nurse said of the 2010 conference in Los Angeles, “The information presented in this venue is immeasurably important to me in my role as an Oncology Certified RN, as a person, and as a lung cancer survivor. It has asked and answered questions I have wanted to ask or know the answers to. Thank you so much!”

Free continuing education credit will be provided to nurses, social workers and attorneys.

In addition to Chicago, in 2011, the CLRC will host Cancer Rights Conferences on Friday, September 23, at Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C.; and Friday, October 21, at the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center, Ann Arbor, MI.

Title sponsors are the Disability Rights Legal Center, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, LIVESTRONG, Genentech, University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center, Georgetown University Law Center and O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law. Presenting sponsors for the Conference Series are Susan G. Komen for the Cure® and the American Cancer Society.

Members of the media who wish to attend should contact Joseph Sorrentino, DRLC Development Assistant, at 213-736-8307, Joseph.Sorrentino@LLS.edu

When: Friday, June 24, 2011
Registration, Continental Breakfast & Expo: 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
Conference: 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Where: Courtyard Marriott Downtown/River North
30 East Hubbard, Chicago, Illinois 60611

Cost: Free

Info/Registration: www.CancerRightsConference.org

Agenda: <http://bit.ly/2011cancerrightsconferencechicagoagenda>

About the Cancer Legal Resource Center

A national, joint program of the Disability Rights Legal Center and Loyola Law School Los Angeles, the Cancer Legal Resource Center (CLRC) provides free information and resources on cancer-related legal issues to survivors, caregivers, healthcare professionals, and others coping with cancer. Founded in 1997, the CLRC has served more than 235,000 people through its toll-free national Telephone Assistance Line, Cancer Rights Conferences, seminars, clinics, education and outreach programs, and other cancer community activities. For more information, visit www.CancerLegalResourceCenter.org

About the Disability Rights Legal Center

Founded in 1975, the Disability Rights Legal Center (DRLC) is a nonprofit organization that champions the civil rights of people with disabilities through education, advocacy and litigation.

About Loyola Law School, Los Angeles

Located in downtown Los Angeles—a legal, financial and media capital—Loyola Law School is home to prominent faculty, dedicated students and cutting-edge programs. Committed to legal ethics and the public interest, it has produced top attorneys for 90 years. *National Jurist* magazine ranks it eighth on its list of “Best Law Schools for Public Interest Law.” It was ranked fifth in the nation for trial advocacy, ninth for diversity and 10th for tax law by *U.S. News & World Report*. For more information, please see www.lls.edu.