

# NEWS

From

## Richard Alarcón

Councilmember, 7th District



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### **\*\*\* MEDIA ADVISORY \*\*\***

## **COUNCILMEMBER ALARCÓN'S MOTION TO CREATE LGBT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TASK FORCE SUBCOMMITTEE TO BE HEARD IN PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**WHO:** Hon. Richard Alarcón, Los Angeles City Councilmember (District 7)  
Terra Slavin, DV Lead Attorney Legal Services, L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center  
Ben Schirmer, Executive Director, Rainbow Services  
Shirin Buckman, Advocate, Human Relations Commission

**WHEN:** Monday, July 7 at 9:00 AM

**WHERE:** Los Angeles City Hall, Room 1010  
200 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

**WHAT:** Gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender advocates will be testifying in support of Councilmember Alarcon's motion to create a LGBT-specific task force subcommittee dealing with domestic violence issues.

**BACKGROUND:** On Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, Councilmember Alarcón introduced a motion aimed at reducing incidents of domestic violence in the LGBT community through the creation of a LGTB Domestic Violence Task Force. Studies conducted over the last two decades indicate that the rate of partner abuse and domestic violence affecting people in same-gender relationships is the same as domestic violence in heterosexual relationships, which is approximately one out of every three or four couples.

But while there is equal occurrence of domestic violence in the LGBT community, there are no known LGBT-specific domestic violence shelters in the US and many service providers do not properly address the needs of the LGBT community. Locally, the City of Los Angeles has a strong commitment to domestic violence prevention, with the Los Angeles City Domestic Violence Task Force taking the lead on education and prevention of instances of domestic violence. This motion will create a LGBT-specific Subcommittee of the Los Angeles City Domestic Violence Task Force. This Subcommittee will develop a comprehensive strategy to mitigate LGBT domestic violence issues.

Councilmember Alarcon's motion is supported by the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center and the Los Angeles City Domestic Violence Task Force. In addition to the creation of the task force the motion requests the LAPD to track incidents of LGBT domestic violence, tasks the new Subcommittee with education and outreach on LGBT domestic violence issues and to work with the Subcommittee on Funding to identify funding opportunities.

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