

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 30, 2016

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## Sex Workers' Ninth Circuit Appeal Granted 30 Day Extension

San Francisco, CA - Today, the Erotic Service Providers Legal Education and Research Project (ESPLERP) confirmed that the Ninth Circuit had granted a 30 day extension for the submission of its appeal brief.

In March 2015, the Erotic Service Providers Legal Education and Research Project (ESPLERP) filed a historic legal challenge in Federal Court in Oakland, ESPLERP v Gascon, arguing that <u>California's statute against prostitution</u>, 647(b), is <u>unconstitutional</u> - to "challenge California's intrusion upon their fundamental liberty interest in deciding how to conduct their private lives in matters pertaining to sex."

Sadly, in March 2016, Judge Jeffrey S White issued a deeply flawed order dismissing the case. So ESPLERP then filed a Notice of Appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

That appeal brief was due on September 1st. But ESPLERP asked the court for an extension, which was granted.

ESPELRP's brief is now due on September 30th. And amicus briefs are now due October 7th.

"The legal process moves slowly", said Maxine Doogan, President of ESLEPRP. "But we are confident that the Ninth Circuit will recognize the merits of our case and we will be granted our basic human rights".

The Erotic Service Providers Legal, Education and Research Project (ESPLERP) is a diverse community-based coalition advancing sexual privacy rights through litigation, education, and research.

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