



*For Planning Purposes*

March 15th, 2021

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

***Housing Rights Initiative, The Legal Aid Society, and U.S.  
Congresswoman Nydia M. Velázquez Announce One of The Largest  
Fair Housing Investigations Since The Enactment of The Fair Housing  
Act***

***Groups Will Announce Legal Action to Address Investigation Findings***

**New York, NY** — Today, Monday, March 15th, Housing Rights Initiative (HRI), a housing watchdog group that investigates predatory real estate practices, The Legal Aid Society, and U.S. Rep. Nydia M. Velázquez will hold a virtual press conference to make a special announcement regarding the results of one of the largest fair housing investigations since the enactment of the Fair Housing Act. The groups will also announce legal action to address the investigation's far-reaching findings.

**WHO:** U.S. Congresswoman Nydia M. Velázquez of NY-7, Aaron Carr, Founder and Executive Director of the Housing Rights Initiative, Judith Goldiner and Robert Desir of The Legal Aid Society, Matthew Handley of Handley Farah & Anderson, and a tenant who has been impacted by housing discrimination.

**WHAT:** Special Announcement Regarding Fair Housing Act

**WHEN:** Monday, March 15, 2021, at 11:00 AM EST

**WHERE/RSVP:** [https://legalaid.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_kgmoyc\\_HQ6WxweXamqvnrw](https://legalaid.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_kgmoyc_HQ6WxweXamqvnrw)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

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**About Housing Rights Initiative** - *Housing Rights Initiative takes a proactive and systematic approach to targeting, investigating, and fighting fraudulent real estate practices, promoting fair housing, and connecting tenants to legal support. HRI educates tenants about their rights to fair and affordable housing, launches investigations, and generates*

*class-action lawsuits against predatory real estate companies. Through a legal mobilization effort, HRI lays the foundation for tenants who have been defrauded or discriminated against by the real estate industry, to seek redress and secure their rights under the law. HRI's successful investigations into and class action lawsuits against Kushner Companies were recently featured in the Netflix documentary Dirty Money.*

**About The Legal Aid Society** - *The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For 145 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities.*

**About U.S. Congresswoman Nydia M. Velázquez** - *Congresswoman Nydia M. Velázquez is currently serving her fourteenth term as Representative for New York's 7th Congressional District. In the 116th Congress, she is the Chairwoman of the House Small Business Committee, a senior member of the Financial Services Committee, and a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources.*

**About Handley Farah & Anderson** - *Handley Farah & Anderson are lawyers who seek to improve the world. They fight for: workers deprived of wages, consumers deceived about products, tenants denied access to housing, farmers mistreated by processors, parents deprived of adequate parental leave, investors who were defrauded, small businesses harmed by antitrust violations, persons with disabilities denied access, whistleblowers who uncover fraud, and women and communities of color subject to discrimination.*