For immediate release

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The Seattle Human Rights Commission Seeks Candidates

SEATTLE – The Seattle Human Rights Commission seeks candidates to apply for service on the Commission. Candidates will be selected and appointed by the Mayor and City Council. The Commission advises the Mayor and City Council on human rights and social justice issues.

As the City of Seattle has been declared a Human Rights City, the Commission works with the City to protect, respect and fulfill the inherent human rights for all who live in the City. It uses the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments as its compass in highlighting and addressing human rights issues. The Commission also works to impact the lives of people in Seattle through its policy work and community outreach, and works with the Office for Civil Rights to end discrimination.

Participation on the Commission requires a minimum time commitment of 10-15 hours per month. This includes attendance at monthly meetings held the first Thursday of each month in the evening, participation in committee work, meeting with City departments, communicating with state legislators and addressing human rights concerns. The Commission also hears and adjudicates appeals of discrimination cases from the Seattle Office for Civil Rights.

Commissioners are appointed for two years and all appointments are subject to confirmation by the City Council. The Commission is interested in applicants with diverse backgrounds, including human rights, social services, education, law, public policy, advocacy, and business. Commissioners serve without compensation. To be considered, email a letter of interest, resume and SHRC application to marta.idowu@seattle.gov by August 25, 2014. The SHRC application is available at www.seattle.gov/humanrights or by request made to marta.idowu@seattle.gov.

The City is committed to promoting diversity in its commissions. Women, people with disabilities, youth, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, immigrants and people of color are encouraged to apply. All are welcome.

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