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VIA E-MAIL AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

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RE: Invitation for Collaboration in Light of COVID-19 in Texas

Counsel:

We are attorneys with Disability Rights Texas, the non-profit, federally designated legal protection and advocacy organization for persons with disabilities in Texas.¹ We write to enlist your assistance in ensuring all Texans are treated fairly in light of the public concern about the spread of COVID-19. We understand that you and your firm represent Homeowners Associations, Community Associations, or Condominium Associations, and we would like to work with you to ensure no one in Texas is treated differently because of COVID-19.

We have already seen discrimination based on perceived disability and national origin in a Texas neighborhood. History tells us that this behavior will become more prevalent. We know your representation includes ensuring that your clients treat everyone fairly. We appreciate the work you do and understand it is

¹ See generally, *Disability Rights Wisconsin v. State of Wisconsin State of Public Instructions*, 463 F.3d 719, 722-723 (7th Cir. 2006) (citing Gary P. Gross, Protection and Advocacy System Standing—To Vindicate the Rights of Persons With Disabilities, 22 Mental and Physical Disability Law Rptr. 674, 674 (Sept.-Oct.1998) (providing extensive background on the protection and advocacy system mandated by Congress)).

not easy. If you have not already disseminated information to your clients about the potential situations they could encounter in light of COVID-19, we would be happy to work with you to develop something. This could potentially include not only the situations they are likely to see, but also general guidance on how to respond to them.

Experience tells us that issues can be avoided if people are educated. We write because we know that your clients trust and respect you and your firm. If we work together, we can work to ensure that all Texans are treated fairly.

To continue this conversation, please reach out to me at rmiller@drtx.org or (214) 845-4069 or Chris at cmcgreal@drtx.org or (214) 845-4056.

Sincerely,



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