

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Sex Workers File Appeal for Human Rights**

*ESPLERP Files Notice To Appeal Against Deeply Flawed Judgement In Northern California District Court That Continues Discrimination Against Sex Workers.*

San Francisco, CA - Judge Jeffrey S White issued an Order in Northern California District Court dismissing the Erotic Service Providers Legal Education Research Project ([ESPLERP](#)) v [Gascon](#) court case, which challenged California's current anti-prostitution law, Penal Code 647(b). So today ESPLERP responded and filed a Notice of Appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, seeking our day in court - where we are confident that the merits of our case will finally be recognized and we will be granted our basic human rights.

Judge Jeffrey S White's decision was deeply flawed... Essentially a judge's personal bias against sex worker rights in search of a legal justification. It also ignored the recommendations of a whole series of reputable international organizations, including [Amnesty International](#), the [World Health Organization](#), the Lancet, Human Rights Watch, and the UN Global Commission on HIV and the Law, all of which call for the decriminalization of sex work.

Jerald Mosley, a former Supervising Deputy Attorney General for the State Department of Justice, said "appeal of the trial court's ruling is necessary to resist the denigration of sex workers and to affirm Lawrence v Texas articulation of individuals' right to privacy in their sexual conduct. The issue is whether we need to submit our personal relationships for court inspection before we are allowed to claim our constitutional right to privacy."

"This case is about whether the government may intrude into the private lives of consenting adults by criminalizing their sexual behavior" said Mike Chase, longtime human rights activist.

“Lawrence v Texas said that it may not. Americans have a constitutional right to privacy regarding their sexual behavior.”

While the ESPLERP’s case is mostly funded by individuals making small contributions, our opponents (the State of California and various District Attorneys) have very deep pockets - essentially using our taxpayer dollars to deny us our rights. Contributions to support our court case can be submitted through online crowd course fundraiser.

<https://www.tilt.com/tilts/support-historic-lawsuit-esplerp-v-gascon>.

*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.*

Erotic Service Providers Legal, Education and Research Project (ESPLERP)

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