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Transgender Advocacy Group Commemorates Day of Remembrance

First Held in 1999, Annual Day of Remembrance Has Grown Into Hundreds of Memorials and Events Around the World

NEW YORK – On the 10th annual Transgender Day of Remembrance, the Transgender Legal Defense & Education [TLDEF] pays tribute to those who have lost their lives at the hands of anti-transgender violence.

“November 20 is a day for all of us to pause and remember the countless transgender men and women who have died simply because of who they were,” TLDEF executive director Michael Silverman said.

First held in 1999 following Rita Hester’s brutal murder inside her Boston apartment, the Transgender Day of Remembrance has evolved into hundreds of memorials and other events around the world. This year’s commemorations carry added significance in light of the recent deaths of Lateisha Green in Syracuse, New York, and Duanna Johnson in Memphis.

“Lateisha’s and Duanna’s deaths clearly demonstrate the need to eradicate anti-transgender violence and hatred in our society,” Silverman continued. “The annual Transgender Day of Remembrance provides an opportunity for all of us to recommit ourselves to this cause.”

Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund is committed to ending discrimination based upon gender identity and expression, and to achieving equality for transgender people through public education, test-case litigation, direct legal services, community organizing and public policy efforts.