Lawyers in Southern California:

UCLA Law’s Center on Reproductive Health, Law, and Policy; the State of California Office of the Attorney General; Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney; the Los Angeles County Bar Association; and the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles would like to invite your law firm to join the new Southern California Legal Alliance for Reproductive Justice (SoCal LARJ). Modeled on similar coalitions in New York and San Francisco, we aim to bring together the legal profession in SoCal to provide pro bono representation concerning abortion and other reproductive rights and justice issues.

We believe the legal profession needs a united front to counter an array of new, draconian reproductive healthcare restrictions, which include civil and criminal penalties, in the wake of the Supreme Court’s Dobbs decision. We hope your firm will agree to provide pro bono legal support to patients, providers, and others in Southern California and beyond.

We recognize that your firm may already be working in this area in other ways, including as part of the San Francisco Legal Alliance for Reproductive Rights (LARR). We are in regular communication with LARR, who are amenable to the cross-listings of firms, and with whom we hope to continue to coordinate.

We have also held advisory meetings with the LA City Attorney, the LA County District Attorney’s Office, the LA County Office of Women’s Health, the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Lawyers for Good Government, the California Women’s Law Center, the Center for Reproductive Rights, If/When/How, Black Women for Wellness, ACCESS Reproductive Justice, Regulatory Assistance for Abortion Providers, the National Network of Abortion Funds, several Planned Parenthood affiliates, and many others who are continuing to inform our effort to add legal resources to the broader field, rather than be duplicative.

If your firm is willing to join SoCal LARJ, please first send an email to Lara Stemple stemple@law.ucla.edu so indicating, and also please indicate whether we may list the name of your firm in public materials (press releases, websites, and the like). We will not be requiring an engagement letter.

The second step, which can be completed in subsequent weeks, is to fill out this form to indicate the specifics of your firm’s interest and capacity to provide pro bono legal support. You will find a wide range of practice areas reflected.

Finally, a representative of each firm joining SoCal LARJ will be invited to our next meeting on Sept. 29 from 12:00-1:00 pm; please save the date.

Thank you for considering our request, and please reach out with questions. We hope to work with you as part of this important effort.