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Report on Government Compliance with the D.C. Language Access Act to be Released at National Press Club Event

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, DC, April 23, 2012 – American University Washington College of Law (WCL) is announcing the release of a report titled *“Access Denied: The Unfulfilled Promise of the D.C. Language Access Act,”* a comprehensive examination of the city government’s compliance with the D.C. Language Access Act, a law designed to ensure that limited English proficient and non-English proficient (LEP/NEP) individuals have access to government services, programs, and activities. The report is a collaborative effort by the American University Washington College of Law Immigrant Justice Clinic, and the D.C. Language Access Coalition (DCLAC), an alliance of over 40 community-based and civil rights organizations that provide services to D.C.’s LEP communities.

The report is based on surveys of nearly 250 LEP individuals who live and/or work in Washington, D.C., and also includes findings from in-person and telephone tests conducted at D.C. government agencies. Based on the results from these surveys and testing, the report makes recommendations regarding internal agency operations, agency oversight and accountability, and enforcement of the Language Access Act.

What: Press Conference announcing findings of *“Access Denied: The Unfulfilled Promise of the D.C. Language Access Act.”* LEP community members will discuss their experiences interacting with D.C. government agencies. Representatives of Many Languages One Voice (MLOV), DCLAC, WCL, and supporting organizations will also be speaking at the event.

When: 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Thursday, April 26, 2012

Where: National Press Club – The Bloomberg Room
529 14th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20045

Please R.S.V.P. to jen.koduru@gmail.com. For more information, please contact: Jennifer Koduru, Student Attorney with the Immigrant Justice Clinic at American University Washington College of Law at (202) 664-6626 or via email at jen.koduru@gmail.com.

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