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****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

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**DROMM ORGANIZES FREE LEGAL WORKSHOP
FOR VICTIMS OF IMMIGRATION FRAUD**

Jackson Heights, NY, July 8, 2010 -- A free legal workshop for all victims of immigration services fraud is being offered by NYC Council Member Daniel Dromm along with Make the Road New York. The workshop will be held at the Make the Road New York headquarters on Sunday, July 18, 2010, between 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at 92-10 Roosevelt Avenue, Jackson Heights, NY 11372.

Thousands of immigrants who were victims of a wide-reaching immigration scam will be able to recover some of their money. American Immigrant Federation (AIF), led by Stella Figueredo, was accused of charging exorbitant fees, giving misinformation, misfiling papers, and using non-lawyers improperly.

On April 14, 2010, the New York State Attorney General's Office reached a settlement with AIF, a group running as a nonprofit organization with over 20,000 clients. Under this agreement, AIF and its affiliates must stop all immigration services, shut down all of their operations, and pay \$1.2 million dollars in restitution to the victims. AIF operated out of offices at 78-14 Roosevelt Avenue in Jackson Heights, Queens, among other locations.

"I applaud the Office of the Attorney General for uncovering this massive fraud against some of the most vulnerable members of our community. While I recognize the significance of the AIF agreement, I know many unscrupulous groups continue to prey on our families, friends, and neighbors," said Council Member Dromm who represents Jackson Heights, Elmhurst, East Elmhurst, Corona, LeFrak City, Rego Park, and Woodside. "As Chair of the City Council's Immigration Committee, I am dedicated to working with constituents, community-based organizations, and the Attorney General to bring these individuals to justice."

Dromm emphasized that "all victims of this scam should step forward to be considered for restitution. This is your money, but you must apply to recover it." The Attorney General will accept complaints for inclusion in the AIF monetary settlement until July 30, 2010.

"As for other instances of immigration fraud, I ask victims to find hope in the AIF case. The Attorney General is dedicated to tackling fraud while remaining sensitive to the special concerns of immigrants. If you think you might be a victim, report it. There is help for you."

The Attorney General's hotline to report immigration services fraud is 866-390-2992. The website is: http://www.ag.ny.gov/bureaus/civil_rights/immigration_fraud/about.html

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