



## **Commission on Human Rights**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **NYC COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS CHAIR AND COMMISSIONER, ANNABEL PALMA STATEMENT ON THE PASSING OF ARCHBISHOP DESMOND TUTU**

**NEW YORK** –NYC Commission on Human Rights Chair and Commissioner Annabel Palma issued the following statement on the passing of Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

“Archbishop Desmond Tutu was a man who irrevocably changed the world for the better. His powerful and spirited voice guided South Africa out of apartheid, for which he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984. His groundbreaking work as the head of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, provided a framework for restorative justice that today shapes and inspires the Commission’s work in pursuing justice and accountability for New Yorkers facing discrimination. His advocacy for nonviolence, as well as his allyship toward causes such as climate change, LGBTQ rights, and freedom of oppressed peoples all over the world, are an enduring guide for humanity to follow. We are forever in his debt.

While we mark his passing with sadness for the loss of a truly great person, we also express our deep gratitude for what he gave to the world, for his unrelenting selflessness, and for the indelible mark he has left on human history. We should all strive to, as Archbishop Tutu said, “Do your little bit of good where you are; it’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”

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