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### **Emmy Award-winning San Francisco Political Editor to lead Prop 8 discussion in Palm Desert**

PALM DESERT, CA (April 2, 2009) – A discussion about California’s controversial Proposition 8 will be led by openly gay San Francisco political editor, Hank Plante, on Saturday, April 11, at 2:00 p.m., at the Palm Desert Campus of California State University, San Bernardino. The discussion will take place in the campus’s Oliphant Auditorium, located at 37-500 Cook Street.

Proposition 8 was a California ballot proposition passed in the November 4, 2008, general election. It changed the state Constitution to restrict the definition of marriage to opposite-sex couples and eliminated same-sex couples' right to marry. Plante will discuss Prop 8 from a political perspective.

Admission is \$4.00 cash and includes parking. Advanced reservations are not necessary.

Hank Plante has been with CBS 5 in San Francisco since 1986. He has spent more than three decades in journalism, both in print and broadcasting. His awards have included several local and national Emmys, as well as the prestigious George Foster Peabody Award - broadcasting's equivalent to the Pulitzer Prize - as part of CBS 5's "AIDS Lifeline" reporting team. He has also

been awarded the Pioneer Award at the GLAAD Media Awards, and the James R. Harrison Award from the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. He was inducted into the Emmy Silver Circle by the National Television Academy, which honors individuals who have made a significant contribution to broadcasting. In addition, his work has been singled out for praise by The New York Times and other media.

His experience includes reporting and anchoring at TV stations across the country: KHJ-TV in Los Angeles, KRIV-TV in Houston, KMSP-TV in Minneapolis and WVEC-TV in Norfolk, Virginia. He also served as Assignment Editor at WTTG-TV in Washington, D.C., and News Editor at WRC (NBC) Radio, in Washington D.C.

Hank's community service has included work with the Human Rights Campaign, the Lambda Legal Defense Fund, GLAAD, Project Open Hand, and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

Prior to his broadcasting career, Plante worked in print journalism in Washington, D.C. at the Sentinel Newspapers, where he was Managing Editor, and at The Washington Post, where he worked on the City Desk.

Plante currently lives in San Francisco with his partner, Roger Groth, who is an artist. They are also part-time residents of Palm Springs.