



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Advocates and The Friends of the St. Paul Public Library to screen “Freeheld”—film chronicles dying woman’s struggle to transfer pension to domestic partner

Minneapolis / St. Paul, MN (September 26, 2012)- The Advocates for Human Rights and The Friends of the St. Paul Public Library will host a screening of the Academy Award winning documentary film *Freeheld* on Wednesday, October 3 at 7:00 p.m. at the Highland Park Branch Library. *Freeheld* is the second screening of the 9th Women’s Human Rights Film Series.

Freeheld chronicles Detective Lieutenant Laurel Hester’s struggle to transfer her earned pension to her domestic partner, Stacie Andree, when she is diagnosed with terminal cancer. With less than six months to live, Laurel refuses to back down when her elected officials—the Ocean County Freeholders—deny her request to leave her pension to Stacie, an automatic option for heterosexual married couples. The screening will be followed by a discussion moderated by Amy Bergquist, staff attorney at The Advocates for Human Rights. The Highland Park Branch Library is located at 1975 Ford Parkway in Saint Paul.

The Advocates has presented the Women's Human Rights Film Series in partnership with The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library since 2004. The next screening in the series will be *The Invisible War* on Tuesday, November 13 at Metropolitan State University, followed by *From Fear to Freedom: Ending Violence Against Women* on Monday, December 3 at the St. Anthony Park Branch Library.

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The Advocates for Human Rights, a nonprofit organization headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, is dedicated to the impartial promotion and protection of internationally-recognized human rights. With the help of hundreds of volunteers each year, The Advocates investigates and exposes human rights violations; provides representation to immigrants and refugees who have suffered human rights abuses; trains and assists groups that protect human rights; and uses research, education, and advocacy to engage the public, policy makers, and children in human rights work. The Advocates has received international recognition for a broad range of innovative programs and holds Special Consultative Status with the United Nations. To learn more about The Advocates’ local, national, and international work, visit theadvocatesforhumanrights.org.