



# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EMERSON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH  
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## **Stephen F. Rohde – Author, Commentator And Attorney – To Speak On “The Assault on Civil Liberties in the War on Terror”**

Canoga Park, California, 11 May 2007 - Stephen F. Rohde, Esq., a constitutional lawyer, lecturer and writer, will speak on Sunday, June 24, at Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church during the church service, which begins at 10:30 a.m. The topic for Mr. Rohde’s talk will be “The Assault on Civil Liberties in the War on Terror.” According to Mr. Rohde, for the last six years, the Bush Administration has engaged in a series of actions which undermine the Constitution and the Bill of Rights – from warrantless wiretaps, to denying habeas corpus; from using torture and abuse, to racially profiling Muslims; from infiltration and surveillance of anti-war groups, to improper use of National Security letters; and the list goes on. Stephen Rohde will explore these and other issues facing our country and will assess what they mean to the future of our constitutional democracy.

There will be a short Q&A following the service.

For additional information on this and future programs, please visit [www.emersonuuc.org](http://www.emersonuuc.org).

**ABOUT STEPHEN F. ROHDE, ESQ.** – Stephen F. Rohde, Esq., is a constitutional lawyer, lecturer and writer. He is a past President of the ACLU of Southern California and the Beverly Hills Bar Association and is a Vice President of the Progressive Jewish Alliance and Death Penalty Focus. Mr. Rohde received his B.A. degree in Political Science from Northwestern University in 1966 and his J.D. degree from Columbia Law School in 1969. He is senior partner with the law firm of Rohde & Victoroff in Century City, specializing in civil litigation and appeals, communications, media, intellectual property and constitutional law. He has written numerous articles and book reviews on civil liberties, separation of church and state, the death penalty and constitutional history, as well as co-authored the books *Foundation of Freedom*, *American Words of Freedom*, and *Freedom of Assembly*.

**ABOUT EMERSON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH** - Founded in 1956 and named for Ralph Waldo Emerson (the American essayist, poet, and leader of the Transcendentalist movement, 1803-1882), Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church is a vibrant, growing liberal religious community located in the “Old Town” district of Canoga Park.

Emerson is one of more than a thousand U.S. congregations that make up the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), a religious body whose member congregations covenant among themselves to affirm and promote: the inherent worth and dignity of every person; justice, equity and compassion in human relations; acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in each congregation; a free and responsible search for truth and

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meaning; the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within each congregation and in society at large; the goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all; respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Members of the Emerson congregation include individuals from diverse cultures, religious backgrounds and beliefs, including Christians, Humanists, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, Pagans and others. In 1997, Emerson became one of the first congregations in California to be certified by the UUA as a Welcoming Congregation - a designation awarded to those UU congregations which have established programs to become more inclusive towards bisexual, gay, lesbian, and/or transgender people.

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