



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 14, 2015

**Contact:** Lorenza Munoz, 213-458-6279

**Email:** [lmunoz@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:lmunoz@bos.lacounty.gov)

**Contact:** Sharita Moon, 213-974-2222

**Email:** [smoon@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:smoon@bos.lacounty.gov)

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **Professor Cornel West to join Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Empowerment Congress Summit**

**WHEN:** 9 a.m. Saturday, January 17

**WHAT:** The Empowerment Congress, the forerunner to Los Angeles' neighborhood council movement, will hold its 23<sup>rd</sup> annual summit. Professor Cornel West will be the featured keynote speaker and Get Lit, a student spoken word troupe, will perform. The afternoon program will include workshops on topics such as sex trafficking, child welfare and violence as a public health issue.

The summit will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of key events in the civil rights movement including the Selma to Montgomery Marches and the passage of the Voting Rights Act. **Both West and Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, who founded the Empowerment Congress, will hold a media availability immediately afterwards.**

**WHO:** Professor Cornel West, prominent author and academic, will be the keynote speaker

*Special Guests:*

Los Angeles County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl

Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis

Los Angeles County Sheriff Jim McDonnell

**WHERE:** University of Southern California. Bovard Auditorium.  
3551 Trousdale Parkway  
Los Angeles, CA 90089

###