

July 31, 2019
Contact:

Redmond Haskins
The Legal Aid Society
rhaskins@legal-aid.org
(929) 441-2384

*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

***STATEMENT ON CITY REPORT OF CIVIL ACTIONS BROUGHT
AGAINST THE NYPD OVER MISCONDUCT FOR FIRST HALF OF
2019***

(NEW YORK, NY) – **Tina Luongo, Attorney-In-Charge of the Criminal Defense Practice at The Legal Aid Society**, released the following statement in response to [reporting](#) released by the City today on civil actions for misconduct brought against the New York City Police Department (NYPD) and against individual officers during the first half of 2019:

“New Yorkers would be better served by police if the NYPD seriously focused on curbing rampant and systemic misconduct – which continues to cost taxpayers millions of dollars each year – instead of spearheading efforts to criminalize water splashing. These lawsuits demonstrate that police are still violating civil rights – mostly in communities of color – through the use of excessive force, wrongful arrest and imprisonment, assault, malicious prosecution and other acts of misconduct that erode the public trust. These numbers will remain high unless the NYPD seriously revamps its disciplinary process so that officers who engage in this conduct receive more than just a slap on the wrist.”

###

The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For over 140 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities.
<https://www.legalaidnyc.org>