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**\*Please attribute to Anne Oredeko, Supervising Attorney of the Racial Justice Unit at The Legal Aid Society:**

“It’s truly an embarrassing day for the New York State Legislature when its lawmakers are willing to waste time and energy to introduce legislation to criminalize water splashing on police, categorizing the crime in the same legal category as third-degree rape, female genital mutilation, and fourth-degree arson. As if officers do not already have many legal protections – as evidenced by the immense difficulty that black and Latinx communities have experienced when attempting to hold individual officers and precincts accountable for gross violations of human rights. Thankfully this bill is dead on arrival and it will die in committee. Instead of wasting time on chasing sensational headlines, these Legislators should focus on the true needs of their constituents.”

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