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

## ***STATEMENT ON NYPD MONTHLY CRIME BRIEFING***

(NEW YORK, NY) – **The Legal Aid Society** released the following statement in response to the New York City Police Department’s (NYPD) monthly crime briefing:

“Today’s report from the NYPD, which shows that New York City achieved a record low overall index crime in 2019, demonstrates continuing progress that is a byproduct of past reforms. And despite recent tragedies that are entirely unrelated to the newly enacted pretrial reform legislation, the implementation of these additional reforms will further drive this figure down. New York is the safest big city in America. It will remain so – and, indeed, it will become safer yet, as more New Yorkers, who are presumed innocent, are released pre-trial from cages at Rikers Island and, thereby, given a meaningful opportunity to fight their cases.”

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*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>*