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

***In 2019 Alone, New Yorkers Filed Roughly 1,400 Lawsuits
Against The NYPD For Alleged Misconduct***

***Total Settlement Payouts In 2019 Increased By Almost \$30
Million, Costing NYC Taxpayers A Staggering \$68,688,423***

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society released an analysis today of [data](#) published by the City on civil actions for misconduct brought against the New York City Police Department (NYPD) and against individual officers. The report reveals that New Yorkers filed 1,383 lawsuits in 2019 against the NYPD for a range of misconduct including excessive use of force, assault, wrongful arrest and imprisonment, malicious prosecution, and other acts. The City also paid out over \$68,688,423 dollars to settle those lawsuit, which is an increase of almost \$30 million in payouts compared to 2018.

This data does not include matters which were settled outside of court between New Yorkers and the City, which could amount to hundreds of individual cases or more.

“An epidemic of misconduct within the New York City Police Department continues to cost New York City taxpayers tens of millions of dollars each year. Yet Police Secrecy Law 50a denies us data about how and why that misconduct occurs and what the NYPD is doing - or more to the point, not doing – about it. Albany must repeal the Police Secrecy Law this session so that New Yorkers can finally hold officers who commit misconduct accountable and develop solutions that prevent it from happening in the first place rather than paying for it after the fact,” said **Corey Stoughton, Attorney-in-Charge of the Special Litigation Unit of the Criminal Defense Practice at The Legal Aid Society.**

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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>