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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Legal Aid, Cleary Gottlieb In Court To Continue Fighting
Against ICE Courthouse Arrests***

(New York, NY) – On Wednesday, February 12, 2020, immigrant rights attorneys in *Doe v. ICE* argued in front of Hon. Alison J. Nathan in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York to oppose Defendants’ Motion to Dismiss in order to continue the litigation. The lawsuit seeks to stop Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) from making civil immigration arrests without a judicial warrant or court order in and around New York State courthouses.

The litigation team (**The Legal Aid Society**, and the law firm of **Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP**) and plaintiffs (**John Doe, Make the Road New York, Urban Justice Center, Sanctuary for Families, The Door, and the New York Immigration Coalition**) issued the following statement:

“We are proud of the strong advocacy of our legal team and plaintiffs, and hopeful that Judge Nathan understood our position that ICE’s brazen and unprecedented abductions of our clients from in and around New York Courts have created a chilling effect which impedes non-citizens’ ability to safely access justice. We are confident that our claims have merit and that there is no basis for dismissal, and that we will prevail in our fight to ensure that all New Yorkers can freely access our courts, without being subjected to fear and intimidation.

Every day that ICE continues to have unfettered access to our state’s courts, it jeopardizes the very foundation of our judicial system.”

To learn more about *Doe v. ICE*, visit The Legal Aid Society’s [case page](#).

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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>

Make the Road New York (MRNY) builds the power of immigrant and working class communities to achieve dignity and justice through organizing, policy innovation, transformative education, and survival services. We have 23,000+ members and operate five community centers in Bushwick, Brooklyn; Jackson Heights, Queens; Port Richmond, Staten Island; Brentwood, Long Island; and White Plains, Westchester County. On Twitter: @MaketheRoadNY