



June 15, 2020

Contact:

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

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

***Legal Aid Statement On NYPD Disbanding Its Controversial Anti-Crime Unit***

**(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society** released the following statement in response to the New York City Police Department disbanding its controversial Anti-Crime Unit:

"There is no better place to start reducing the NYPD's headcount than by disbanding the Anti-Crime Unit, an outfit infamous for employing hyper-aggressive policing techniques to brutalize New Yorkers - mostly those from communities of color - and to defy their basic constitutional rights. This is welcome news, but New Yorkers will not be better served if these officers are simply reassigned, carrying with them the same bad habits that earned Anti-Crime its dismal reputation. The City must drastically reduce the NYPD's headcount and use those funds to invest in communities. Anything less is simply window dressing to distract away from the greater systemic issues that currently roil law enforcement in New York."

###

*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.*

[www.legalaidnyc.org](http://www.legalaidnyc.org)