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

***Legal Aid Calls On NYPD To Immediately Fire NYPD Officers Involved  
In Brutal Attack On Client***

***Legal Aid Also Demands That Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance  
Dismiss All Pending Charges***

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society called on the New York Police Department (NYPD) to immediately fire Officers Adonis Long and Shimul Saha, who were involved in the [brutal attack](#) of a Legal Aid client, Joseph (30), shortly after midnight on Monday, May 25, 2020.

In extremely disturbing body worn camera footage obtained by Legal Aid, Joseph is seen riding the subway on his way home to Brooklyn when Officers Long and Saha approached him for allegedly occupying two subway seats.

Without legal reason, Officers Long and Saha demanded that Joseph exit the train. When Joseph moved to an adjacent car, Long and Saha pursued him. Aggressively acting to remove Joseph from the subway car, PO Long punched him and threw him onto the platform. PO Long is also heard using explicit language. When Joseph attempted to question Officers Long and Saha as to why he was being attacked, Officer Long responded by macing him in the face.

Joseph was eventually handcuffed, restrained against a wall and then taken to a local hospital on a stretcher.

Throughout the entire footage, Joseph can be heard crying out in pain, expressing fear for his safety and an inability to breathe.

The police charged Joseph initially with Resisting Arrest, Obstruction of Governmental Administration and taking up more than one seat on the subway (a violation). However, despite this graphic BWC footage, the Manhattan District Attorney upgraded the charges and Joseph is now facing an added felony charge of Assault in the Second Degree.

“The brutal attack on Joseph by these officers is both unconscionable and completely indefensible. The body worn camera footage speaks for itself: these officers singled out our client for taking up two seats on a virtually empty subway car and then resorted to violence as their first impulse. Officer Long and Saha should be fired immediately. It’s equally shocking that the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office, despite seeing this video, chose to bump up the charges against our client. We are calling on them to dismiss these charges immediately in the interest of justice,” said **Edda Ness, Staff Attorney with the Manhattan Trial Office at The Legal Aid Society.**

Criminal complaint: [https://legalaidnyc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/M20616260\\_Complaint\\_2.pdf](https://legalaidnyc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/M20616260_Complaint_2.pdf)

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