



October 5, 2020

Contact:

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

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

Legal Aid, Advocates and Community Members to Hold Webinar on the NYPD's Rogue Gang Database - "The Criminalization of Association"

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society, Grassroots Advocates for Neighborhood Groups and Solutions (G.A.N.G.S Coalition), and others will hold a webinar on October 8, 2020 at 5:45 PM to educate New Yorkers about the New York City Police Department's gang database, which overwhelmingly targets communities of color. The webinar will include three different sessions, starting with an overview of the NYPD's gang database, an examination of what the NYPD considers as 'gang-related' activity, and a discussion of the national movement to eradicate gang policing.

The webinar also hopes to motivate community members to take action, and participants will call on the NYPD's Inspector General's Office to conduct a thorough investigation of the Department's gang enforcement practices and to produce a detailed report on findings. Lastly, the webinar will serve as a platform for New Yorkers who have been victimized by NYPD gang policing to share their perspectives and experiences.

"While other jurisdictions have taken steps to abolish gang policing and gang databases, the NYPD continues to use this racist practice to ensnare innocent New Yorkers, the overwhelming majority of whom come from communities of color," said **Victor Dempsey with the Community Justice Unit at The Legal Aid Society**. "This webinar will draw attention to the NYPD's use of gang policing and help mobilize New Yorkers to hold the the Department accountable for violating their rights. These events are crucial to secure the reforms that New Yorkers deserve from the NYPD."

Register here: https://brooklyncollege.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJIrfuqgrj8sHdLjW4A-_V_QvHHlxuavU2Ts

Event contact: Victor Dempsey - VDempsey@legal-aid.org

###

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