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Statement on the Election of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris to the White House

(NEW YORK, NY) – **The Legal Aid Society** issued the following statement on the election of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris to the White House:

"The never-ending nightmare of the last four years, featuring a relentless litany of unconstitutional policies rooted in racism, malice, intolerance, and hatred, is finally coming to an end. Since the first day of the Trump administration, The Legal Aid Society has sought to act as a bulwark for our clients against xenophobic travel bans, incalculably cruel family separation, the rollback of key LGBTQ+ rights, the elimination of critical housing protections and an endless parade of other mean-spirited, grievance-fueled policies promulgated by this White House to target underserved communities. This battle has been hard-fought, but we never wavered, and much work remains.

We congratulate President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris on this historic victory, and thank all those who took to the streets to demand change, especially BIPOC communities who fought so hard to make this dream a reality. With that, we hope that the next administration will take immediate action to tackle the multitude of unprecedented challenges that we currently face: racial, economic, health, housing, education, employment – and especially to address the injustices that have so long characterized our criminal legal system. Since our founding in 1876, The Legal Aid Society has zealously advocated for our clients on a range of issues and that advocacy will continue regardless of who occupies the White House."

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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