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***\*\*\*Statement on the Exoneration of Emmanuelle Cooper\*\*\****

**(NEW YORK, NY) – Jamal Johnson, Attorney-in-Charge of the Homicide Defense Task Force at The Legal Aid Society,** released the following statement on the [exoneration](#) of Emmanuelle Cooper, a Brooklynite who was wrongly convicted of a 1992 murder:

"The evidence in this case supporting Mr. Cooper's exoneration was overwhelming, and we are elated that our client will finally have his name cleared of this conviction that has haunted him for over 27 years. While this vacatur will not make up for the almost three decades that Mr. Cooper lost and the subsequent trauma he suffered, we hope that it provides some closure and the opportunity for him to carry on with the rest of his life. The Legal Aid Society is grateful that DA Eric Gonzalez, citing a clear lack of evidence, agreed to dismiss the remaining charges pending against Mr. Cooper."

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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)*