



December 17, 2020

Contacts:

Alejandra Lopez
The Legal Aid Society
(917) 294-9348
ailopez@legal-aid.org

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

The Legal Aid Society Honors Staff at 144th Annual Meeting

(New York, NY) — The Legal Aid Society held its 144th Annual Meeting on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, where staff were recognized for their service and dedication to the organization and its clients. The Orison S. Marden Awards were created in 1976 during The Legal Aid Society's centennial year to recognize the excellence of the staff and to honor the memory of Mr. Marden, a partner at White & Case who served as a Director and Chairman for many years.

“We are so proud of our staff for their tireless dedication and commitment to our clients and the issues that impact low-income New Yorkers,” said **Janet Sabel, CEO and Attorney-in-Chief of The Legal Aid Society**. “It is an honor to recognize these individuals and all staff members of Legal Aid.”

The Orison S. Marden Award for Core Staff was presented to Ferdinand "Freddie" Cesarano, Paralegal in CDP's Special Litigation Unit. Rolando Gonzalez, Staff Attorney in the Community Development Project of HCLO, received the Orison S. Marden Staff Attorney Marden Award. Cara Chambers, Director of the Juvenile Rights Practice's Education Advocacy Project, Hasan Shafiqullah, Attorney-in-Charge of the Immigration Law Unit, and Andrea Yacka-Bible, Supervising Attorney in the Criminal Appeals Bureau, received the Orison S. Marden Manager Awards.

The Sandra Scott Memorial Award honors the memory of our beloved Chief Financial Officer who lost her battle with cancer in 2016. Reshamjeet Singh, The Legal Aid Society's Controller, was presented with this year's award.

Legal Aid also recognized 65 members of the staff who are celebrating milestone anniversaries for 50, 40, 35, 30, and 25 years of service with The Legal Aid Society. Among them are Herbert Grant, Paralegal in Brooklyn Civil, and Irwin Shaw, Attorney-in-Charge of Manhattan CDP, for 50 years of service.

###

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