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

Legal Aid Calls on City to Immediately Fix DOC Inmate Lookup as Families Struggle to Pay Bail for Loved Ones, Make Deposits to Commissary Accounts

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society [called](#) on the City to immediately fix the New York Department of Correction’s (DOC) [inmate lookup](#), which has been down for roughly two weeks. Inmate lookup is a website essential for attorneys to review a client’s release status, parole or out of jurisdictions holds, and bail amount. For families or loved ones of incarcerated clients, it is widely used to pay bail and make deposits to commissary accounts.

“For the last two weeks, Legal Aid attorneys have struggled to locate clients, and family members have been unable to post bail online for loved ones or make deposits to commissary accounts,” said **Marie Ndiaye, Supervising Attorney of the Decarceration Project at The Legal Aid Society**. “This is especially egregious around the holidays, and more so in the midst of a pandemic when COVID-19 infection rates citywide continue to skyrocket. The Department of Correction must fix this critical resource immediately.”

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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