



January 20, 2021

Contact:

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

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

Legal Aid Statement on President Biden's Steps Toward More Humane Immigration Policies

(NEW YORK, NY) – Hasan Shafiqullah, Attorney-in-Charge of the Immigration Law Unit at The Legal Aid Society, released the following statement concerning the initial steps taken today by President Joseph Biden to reverse a number of harmful Trump-era [immigration policies](#) and to make our immigration system more humane:

“The Legal Aid Society applauds these immediate actions by President Biden to reverse a number of racist and callous policies promulgated by the Trump Administration targeted at our immigrant clients.

Today signals a hopeful new day, one where we can begin to turn the page on an administration marked by its deliberate inhumanity and cruelty - from the xenophobic Muslim travel ban and the incalculably cruel family separation policy, to the unconstitutional raids on our courthouses and draconian changes to public charge and asylum eligibility, among so many other hatefilled policies.

However, there is much work yet to be done to support and protect immigrants across the country as our communities face an unprecedented convergence of crises, including systemic racism, a global pandemic, and an economic recession.

The Biden Administration must continue its comprehensive plan to deliver long-deferred justice to immigrant communities. We look forward to supporting ongoing efforts to build a stronger, more equitable country for all.”

###

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