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### **\*\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*\***

## **Elected Officials, Formerly Incarcerated People, Defenders and Advocates to Speak at Rally on Monday to Demand Governor Hochul and Mayor de Blasio Stop Transferring Women and Trans People to State Prisons**

*Governor Hochul and Mayor de Blasio have rushed to implement a new plan to transfer pre-trial incarcerated women and Transgender, Non-conforming, Non-binary and Intersex (TGNCNBI) people from a local jail to a maximum security upstate prisons. The move will exacerbate the crisis on Rikers Island and cause more harm to vulnerable people instead of addressing the real problems at city jails.*

**WHEN: Monday, October 25, 2021** - Rally and press conference at **10:00 a.m.**; March to Governor's office at **10:30 a.m.**

**WHERE:** Kickoff at 10:00am at the **Bryant Park Lawn (42nd Street and Sixth Avenue)** followed by a march to the **Governor's Office at 633 3rd Avenue**, starting at approximately 10:30am. **Route:** East on 42nd Street from the park to the Governor's Office. We'll be marching on the right side of the street/sidewalk.

**WHO:** List in formation. Confirmed speakers include:

- **Melania Brown, activist and sister of [Layleen Polanco](#)**
- **Ceyenne Doroshow, Founder and Executive Director of [G.L.I.T.S.](#)**
- **Assembly Member Harvey Epstein**
- **State Senator Jessica Ramos**
- **Elisa Crespo, Executive Director of [The New Pride Agenda](#)**
- **Shéar Avory, National Social Justice Advocate, [NYC Task Force on TGNCNBI People in Custody](#)**

**Representatives will also be present from: The Bronx Defenders, New Pride Agenda, Stonewall Protests, The Legal Aid Society, Brooklyn Defender Services and Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem.**

**WHAT:** The [NYC Task Force on TGNCNBI People In Custody](#), event organizer, is a group of advocates and experts in the common struggles and safety concerns of incarcerated TGNCNBI people. The Task Force, along with other major stakeholders, were blindsided by Governor Hochul and Mayor de Blasio's announcement that all women and incarcerated TGNCNBI people on Rikers Island will be transferred to upstate prisons. State prisons are not able to meet the needs of people with pending pre-trial cases and are extremely dangerous places for the most vulnerable, such as TGNCNBI people, immigrants, and people living with health conditions and mental illness. This is not the solution to the crisis on Rikers Island and will only cause more harm.

**Following the rally and press conference, people impacted by this plan, TGNCNBI community members, defenders, and advocates will march to the NYC office of Governor Hochul to demand the immediate end to transferring of incarcerated women and other incarcerated people with pre-trial cases to upstate prisons.**

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