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## **\*\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\***

## Statement on Election of Eric Adams as New York City Mayor

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society released the following statement on the election of Eric Adams as New York City Mayor:

"Tonight is historic, and we congratulate Mayor-elect Eric Adams on a hard fought campaign to become New York City's 110th Mayor.

Mr. Adams inherits a City grappling with multiple crises and to ensure the wellbeing of our client community, he must immediately act on key issues in a meaningful way.

This includes committing to immediately closing Rikers Island, dramatically reducing the City's jail population and investing in re-entry services and other alternatives to incarceration. This also means holding New York City Police Department (NYPD) officers who betray public trust truly accountable and reducing the reliance on law enforcement solutions to social problems, especially when it comes to gun violence.

On housing and homelessness, our next Mayor must prioritize the preservation and construction of affordable units throughout New York City that will serve those with the greatest need - the homeless and those on the brink of homelessness. Moreover, Mr. Adams must ensure that our homeless clients have decent and safe shelter until the City is able to provide them with permanent housing.

Lastly, the City needs to continue on the path of enhancing preventive services for families, rather than unnecessarily removing children from their homes and away from their families.

The Legal Aid Society again congratulates Mayor-elect Adams on his victory, and we commit to working with his Administration on these issues that matter to millions of New Yorkers."

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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 145 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. <u>www.legalaidnyc.org</u>