

THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Justice in Every Borough.

December 16, 2021

Contact:

Redmond Haskins
The Legal Aid Society
rhaskins@legal-aid.org
(929) 441-2384

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

Statement on Incoming Adams Administration's Plan to Expand Solitary Confinement in City Jails

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society issued the following statement in response to the incoming Adams Administration's plan to reinstate banned solitary confinement practices in 2022 within New York City jails:

“This proposal throws away years of progress undoing the physical and mental harms caused by solitary confinement, and it reveals the new Administration's intent to reinstate regressive and violent policies over modern and more effective practices.

Mayor-elect Eric Adams has pledged an ‘emotionally intelligent’ response to complex issues of law enforcement but reinstating solitary confinement, a practice that the United Nations has decried as torture and the Mandela Rules limit, is the exact opposite. This is a direct attack on the rule of law, as the recently-enacted Board of Correction rules clearly do not give the Administration this latitude.

The Mayor-elect spoke today about how Rikers Island is a stain on New York — the way the City jails have long abused isolated confinement is one of the darkest parts of that stain. We demand that Adams retract this plan at once.”

###

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. www.legalaidnyc.org