January 4, 2022

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

Statement on New York County District Attorney Alvin Bragg’s Day-One Policy Memo

(NEW YORK, NY) - Tina Luongo, Attorney-In-Charge of the Criminal Defense Practice at The Legal Aid Society, issued the following statement in response to New York County District Attorney Alvin Bragg’s day-one policy memo:

“The Legal Aid Society welcomes this memo as a substantive first step to reform an office that long resorted to making excessive bail requests and overcharging our clients. Meaningful reform demands that these newly announced policies become standard operating procedure officewide, and we urge judges to not stand in the way of these long overdue and necessary reforms.”

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. www.legalaidnyc.org