***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

Legal Aid Congratulates Adrienne E. Adams on her Historic Election as the First Black Woman to Serve as New York City Council Speaker

(NEW YORK, NY) – Janet Sabel, CEO and Attorney-In-Chief of The Legal Aid Society, issued the following statement congratulating Adrienne E. Adams on her historic election as the first Black woman to serve as New York City Council Speaker:

“This is indeed a historic day, and The Legal Aid Society congratulates Adrienne Adams on her election as the first Black woman to lead the New York City Council. It’s also equally historic that women, for the first time, will hold the majority of City Council seats. Local government must fully reflect New York’s unique diversity, and we are heartened that Speaker Adams and the new Council class come from the communities we serve.

We look forward to working with Speaker Adams and the City Council on measures that reform policing and corrections, usher in key protections for tenants, and improve our juvenile legal system for young 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. [www.legalaidnyc.org](http://www.legalaidnyc.org)*