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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**Ahead of NYC Rent Guidelines Preliminary Vote, Legal Aid Calls for an Outright Freeze on All Adjustments**

(NEW YORK, NY) - Adriene Holder, Attorney-In-Charge of the Civil Practice at The Legal Aid Society, released the following statement ahead of the New York City Rent Guidelines Board (RGB) Preliminary Vote on proposed lease adjustments for rent stabilized apartments, lofts and hotels:

“Tenants across New York City are still reeling financially from the pandemic, and increasing rents on some of our most vulnerable neighbors, the overwhelming majority of whom are from Black and Latinx communities, is not only immoral but simply flawed policy.

Under Mayor Giuliani and Mayor Bloomberg, the real estate industry enjoyed yearly increases which pushed our clients out of their homes and many into local homeless shelters. During the de Blasio Administration, work was made to correct this injustice but an imbalance very much remains.

Ahead of this week’s preliminary vote, we call for an outright freeze. Keeping tenants safely housed, and our finite stock of rent-stabilized apartments preserved must remain a top priority for Board members.”

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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._

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