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Contact:

Alejandra Lopez
The Legal Aid Society
ailopez@legal-aid.org

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Ahead of Tonight’s Rent Guidelines Board Preliminary Vote, Legal Aid Calls for a Freeze on All NYC Rent Increases

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

“Over one million people reside in a rent-stabilized dwelling – including many of our clients who are low-income and predominantly from Black and Latinx communities – and any increase that would siphon away money for groceries, medical care or other essentials to pad landlords’ pockets is both unconscionable and immoral.

These are some of our most vulnerable neighbors, and the Rent Guidelines Board must prioritize their safety to ensure that they remain housed. New York is already suffering from a burgeoning eviction and homelessness crisis, and the Board must not choose to pursue a course that exacerbates those realities.

Ahead of tonight’s preliminary vote, we call for an outright freeze. The Board must avoid pushing our clients - seniors, the disabled, working class families - further into poverty, especially as this community continues to recover financially from the COVID-19 pandemic.”

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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