

THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Justice in Every Borough.

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

Legal Aid Condemns Rent Guidelines Board Vote to Increase Rents on Vulnerable New Yorkers

(NEW YORK, NY) - **Adriene Holder, Chief Attorney of the Civil Practice at The Legal Aid Society**, released the following statement condemning the New York City Rent Guidelines Board vote to increase rents for residents of stabilized apartments, lofts and hotels:

“Tonight’s shameful vote, one which was likely predetermined, to increase rents on our most vulnerable neighbors is unconscionable, and many families will suffer as a result.

Certain members of the Board, especially the Chair, ignored the countless cries from tenants, the majority of whom are from communities of color, across the boroughs who are barely scraping by, disproportionately affected financially by the pandemic and paying exorbitant costs for groceries, medical care and other essential needs.

We had hoped that Mayor Adams would have used his bully pulpit, as the previous occupant of City Hall had, to fight for a freeze, but that was wishful thinking given his appointment of known anti-tenant members to the Board.

So many New Yorkers will now become just another statistic, adding to the burgeoning local homeless population, and those Board members who voted for this increase must recognize that this unacceptable reality will play out in the days, weeks and months ahead.”

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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