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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

Legal Aid Statement on SCOTUS Ruling in Biden v. Texas,
Advancing the Biden Administration’s Efforts to End
Trump-era “Remain in Mexico” Program

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society released the following statement in response to a United States Supreme Court ruling in Biden v. Texas, which advances the Biden administration’s efforts to end the Trump-era immigration program known as “Remain in Mexico” that forces asylum seekers arriving at the southwestern border to await approval in Mexico:

“Tens of thousands of asylum seekers have endured horrific conditions and put their lives at risk at the border because of the cruel and inhumane ‘Remain in Mexico’ policy. The Legal Aid Society lauds today’s Supreme Court decision which will allow the Biden administration to finally end the program.

Consistent with our obligations under international law, these families, many of whom were fleeing persecution, should always have been allowed to remain in the U.S. while the Federal government adjudicates their requests for humanitarian relief. Expelling them to Mexico and forcing them to wait there, in often dangerous and unsanitary conditions, was a deliberately heartless and punitive policy, which is at last coming to an end.

We hope that the Biden Administration and the courts continue to terminate the many wrongheaded and xenophobic Trump-era immigration policies that harmed so many families, and we call on the D.C. lawmakers to bolster protections for our clients and all immigrant communities nationwide, including the passage of comprehensive immigration reform.”

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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 over 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