

# THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Justice in Every Borough.

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

## ***Statement In Response to Comments from Mayor Adams and NYPD Commissioner Sewell on Bail Reform***

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society released the following statement in response to comments from Mayor Eric Adams and New York City Police Department (NYPD) Commissioner Keechant Sewell on bail reform:

“The numbers don’t lie, and last week, multiple outlets reported on [data](#) released by the New York State Office of Court Administration showing that bail reform has had little impact on recidivism and as an overall driver of crime, despite the repeated attempts by this Administration to cherry-pick a handful of cases to misguide New Yorkers and convince them that bail reform is responsible for all of society’s ills.

Moreover, Albany must continue to reject the broken record pleas from Mayor Adams and Commissioner Sewell to enact a ‘dangerousness’ provision to New York’s bail statute. ‘Dangerousness’ is, at best, guesswork, replete with biases that have only resulted in the caging of more people of color. Short of a crystal ball, no judge - or human being for that matter - can predict future behavior.

Condemning more New Yorkers to languish at Rikers Island - a facility mired in crises perpetuated by this Administration’s inability and refusal to meaningfully act - is not the answer, and we caution the public from falling prey to this endless fear mongering, devoid of facts and ungrounded in reality.”

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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](http://www.legalaidnyc.org)*