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

## ***Legal Aid Statement in Response to Governor Hochul’s Remarks on “Dangerousness”***

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society issued the following statement in response to remarks made earlier today by Governor Kathy Hochul on the Brian Lehrer Show on adding “dangerousness” to New York’s bail statute:

“As we’ve stated many times before, ‘dangerousness’ is guesswork, replete with biases that would only lead to the pre-trial caging of more Black and Latinx New Yorkers, and we welcome Governor Hochul’s acknowledgement that this practice is wholly subjective, and that no judge, or human being for that matter, can predict one’s future behavior.

Albany must continue to reject cries from fringe politicians, rightwing tabloids and the law enforcement lobby to add this wrongheaded and overtly racist standard to New York’s bail statute. Sending more of our clients, people presumed innocent, to Rikers Island - a facility mired in crises - is not only bad policy, but morally reprehensible.”

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