Legal Aid Statement on DA Bragg Vacating 188 Convictions Involving Discredited NYPD Officers

(NEW YORK, NY) - Elizabeth Felber, director of the Wrongful Conviction Unit at The Legal Aid Society, released the following statement in response to New York County District Attorney Alvin Bragg vacating 188 convictions involving discredited New York City Police Department (NYPD) officers:

“The Legal Aid Society lauds District Attorney Alvin Bragg for vacating these convictions involving discredited NYPD officers.

While this moment delivers some justice and closure to these New Yorkers, they were forced to endure hardships that should have never been allowed to happen. This includes incarceration, hefty legal fees, loss of employment, housing instability, severed access to critical benefits and other collateral consequences.

Going forward, we urge DA Bragg and all of the other New York City District Attorneys to conduct these reviews on an ongoing basis and with full transparency. The mandate to do justice must include evaluating criminal conduct by law enforcement with the same lens that is used with every other New Yorker. To do otherwise erodes the public’s trust in law enforcement and the criminal legal system.”

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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)*