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

## NYC Executed Evictions Continue to Climb - Nearly 4,400 in the Last Year -Since the Statewide Eviction Moratorium Expired in January 2022

## In Response, Housing Attorneys Call on Albany to Immediately Pass "Good Cause" Eviction Legislation

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society, in response to City data on the number of local executed evictions - <u>nearly 4,400 in the last year</u> - which continue to climb since the statewide eviction moratorium expired on January 16, 2022, called on Albany lawmakers to pass "<u>Good Cause</u>" eviction, critical budget-neutral legislation that would provide millions of tenants in unregulated units with basic protections against extortionate rent increase and unjust evictions.

According to the data, executed evictions in New York City have increased almost every month since last January.

**Executed Evictions** 

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January 16 - January 31, 2022	26
February 2022	143
March 2022	212
April 2022	238
May 2022	309
June 2022	315
July 2022	332
August 2022	397

September 2022	432
October 2022	568
November 2022	662
December 2022	386
January 1 - January 16, 2023	355

While it is unclear which of these evictions are related to non-payment or a holdover, which is an eviction proceeding unrelated to non-payment, it is safe to conclude that many of these tenants would have benefited if "Good Cause" were enacted statewide, given the depth and breadth of the legislation. Legal Aid Housing Court attorneys currently represent tenants in hundreds of no-cause holdovers across New York City, often involving the most vulnerable tenants, whose eviction would be avoided should "Good Cause" pass into law.

"Since the statewide eviction moratorium expired last January, New York City's eviction machine has displaced nearly 4,400 households, pushing many families and individuals onto the street or into the already overburdened shelter system," said **Judith Goldiner, attorney-in-charge of the Civil Law Reform Unit at The Legal Aid Society.** "These troubling numbers will only continue to grow should Albany fail to immediately advance 'Good Cause' eviction legislation to ensure that New Yorkers in unregulated units have basic tenant protections against frivolous eviction lawsuits, unjustifiable rent increases and landlord harassment. Lawmakers must answer the cries from their constituents and act on this critical measure now."

Support for "Good Cause" continues to grow statewide, with <u>polls</u> frequently revealing that the majority of New Yorkers support this legislation. Last year, <u>leading statewide unions</u>, including 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East, District Council 37 and others reaffirmed their support for "Good Cause".

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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. <u>www.legalaidnyc.org</u>