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

***Formerly Homeless Family of 10 Facing No Cause Eviction
from Bronx Home***

***In Response, Legal Aid Attorneys Call on Albany to Enact
“Good Cause” to Equip Residents of Unregulated Units With
Basic Tenant Protections***

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society called on Albany lawmakers to enact “[Good Cause](#)” legislation in response to a [report](#) featuring Legal Aid clients – a family of ten, ages three months to nine years old, who are now facing an unwarranted eviction from their Bronx home. If “Good Cause” were existing law, this family would be protected from these practices and able to remain in their home.

Moreover, the “Good Cause” bill is especially needed to protect tenants in the Bronx, which has the [second highest eviction rate](#) in New York State. Landlords filed a total of 39,707 evictions in Bronx County last year.

The family moved into their current apartment in the Bronx two years ago after living in the shelter system and believed they had found a permanent home. In fact, the landlord had informed them that it would be a long-term rental. However, when their one-year lease expired, the landlord refused to renew it and instead began an eviction proceeding. The family has always paid rent on time and they have been responsible and respectful tenants, yet they have no legal recourse to fight the eviction as they live in a non-regulated building.

“All tenants across New York are suffering through this unprecedented housing crisis, but the Bronx has been hit especially hard, having the second highest number of evictions in all of the state,” said **Navneet Kaur, staff attorney in the Bronx Housing Office at The Legal Aid Society**. “Governor Hochul and lawmakers cannot sit idly by and continue to allow mass evictions and displacement. They must enact ‘Good Cause’ to protect the most vulnerable tenants.”

Recently, the *New York Daily News* [reported](#) on another Bronx family of ten – a couple and their eight children, ages six to twenty – who currently face eviction as their landlord refused to renew their lease without providing any justified reason.

In Brooklyn, *Patch* [reported](#) on a similar story of a man who has lived in his home for 15 years and is facing eviction despite being a model tenant for all those years. “Good Cause” would also help these tenants remain in their home.

Background on “Good Cause”

“Good Cause” would require landlords to demonstrate a justification or “good cause” for evicting tenants in unregulated units, and would protect tenants from exorbitant rent hikes, restricting rent increases to either three percent or 1.5 times the inflation rate, whichever is higher.

The budget-neutral legislation would prevent landlords from denying lease renewals to tenants who have consistently abided by the terms of their leases, allowing tenants to advocate for repairs without the fear of retaliation.

The legislation has robust support across the state, with nearly [70 percent of New Yorkers, including policy and political science experts](#) from all levels of government, in favor of passing “Good Cause.” [Leaders of New York’s largest labor unions](#) and [New York State Attorney General Letitia James](#) also support “Good Cause.”

In January, Legal Aid released an [analysis](#) of City data which [revealed](#) that since the statewide eviction moratorium lapsed last year, executed evictions in New York City have increased almost every month.

While it is unclear which of these evictions are related to non-payment or a holdover, 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 New Yorkers in hundreds of no-cause holdovers across the five boroughs, often involving the most vulnerable tenants, whose eviction would be avoided should “Good Cause” pass into law.

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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