



Justice in Every Borough.

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

***Statement from Counsel for Plaintiffs in Nunez v. City of New York et. al.***

**(NEW YORK, NY) - Mary Lynne Werlwas, Director of the Prisoners' Rights Project at The Legal Aid Society and counsel for plaintiffs in *Nunez v. City of New York et. al.*, released the following statement:**

“The Department of Correction has had nearly eight years to bring the City jails into compliance with the federal court’s orders, but conditions today are indeed worse than they were when the court ordered improvements in 2015, compounded by the City’s so-called action plan that has utterly failed to secure the progress that officials promised.

“Between rampant excessive force, an astonishing number of deaths and serious injuries, and the Department’s untruthfulness and efforts to shield its incompetence from outside eyes, only an independent entity such as a receiver can deliver on what the City was unable to accomplish.

“Absent a radical turn-around that the City has time and again demonstrated a lack of capacity or willingness to fulfill, we fully intend to pursue a motion for receivership consistent with the court’s directions at today’s conference.”

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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)*