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City Data: City Marshals Have Already Executed 5,890 Evictions in 2023, a 259 Percent Increase Compared to January 1 - July 31, 2022

In Response, Housing Attorneys Call on Governor Hochul, Legislature Leaders to Enact "Good Cause" Eviction Legislation Next Session

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society called on Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins and Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie to enact "Good Cause" eviction, critical budget-neutral legislation that would provide millions of tenants in unregulated units with basic protections against exorbitant rent increase and unjust evictions, in response to skyrocketing local executed evictions, revealed by <u>City data</u>.

Evictions executed by New York City Marshals between January 1, 2023 and July 31, 2023 increased by over 259 percent compared to the same time period in 2022, up from 1,640 to 5,890. According to the data, executed evictions in New York City have increased nearly every month since the statewide eviction moratorium expired in January of 2022.

Quarter/Month	Bronx	Brooklyn	Manhattan	Queens	Staten Island
JanMarch 2022	108	161	46	89	44
April-June 2022	169	354	110	169	55
July-Sept. 2022	252	466	190	208	52
OctDec. 2022	493	566	292	175	95
JanMarch 2023	631	815	443	235	110
April-June 2023	882	894	515	456	162
July 2023	250	196	156	117	28
Totals	2,785	3,452	1,752	1,449	546

Executed Evictions January 1, 2022 - July 31, 2023

In July 2023 alone, City Marshalls executed 747 evictions citywide — a 123 percent increase from last July's total of 335. In total, 9,984 households have suffered an eviction since January 2022.

This past legislative session, Governor Hochul and the Legislature failed to advance any meaningful policy to address New York's spiraling housing crisis, which will continue to displace families from their homes and communities.

Full breakdown of New York City executed evictions by month and borough since the eviction moratorium expired last January: <u>https://tinyurl.com/3t4vkadf</u>.

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 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.

"New York's eviction machine is in full swing, and this will only worsen so long as Albany lawmakers fail to advance policies to equip tenants with basic, common-sense rights," said **Judith Goldiner, attorney-in-charge of the Civil Law Reform Unit at The Legal Aid Society.** "Next session, Governor Hochul and Legislature leaders must finally enact 'Good Cause' to provide our clients the relief they deserve before more New Yorkers are displaced from their homes and communities, compounding the local homelessness crisis."

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 <u>70 percent of New Yorkers, including policy and political science experts</u> from all levels of government, in favor of passing "Good Cause". <u>Small landlords, leaders of New York's largest labor unions</u> and <u>New York State Attorney General Letitia James</u> also support "Good Cause".

The New York Times, Times Union, and Buffalo News have also previously opined in 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>