



Justice in Every Borough.

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

***Statement on Governor Kathy Hochul Granting Clemency to Legal Aid Client  
Michael Martin***

(NEW YORK, NY) - Ted Hausman, supervising attorney with the Criminal Appeals Bureau at The Legal Aid Society, issued the following statement in response to Governor Kathy Hochul granting clemency to Michael Martin, a Legal Aid client:

“We are pleased that Governor Hochul granted clemency to our client Michael Martin, who can now remain in New York with his family and community without fear of deportation back to Guyana, a country he left more than 30 years ago. As we’ve stated before, clemency and pardon review should be conducted on a rolling basis, and we hope this is the start of Governor Hochul extending this critical relief to the many New Yorkers who deserve it.”

**Background on Michael Martin**

Michael Martin, age 57, is a Guyanese immigrant and has been a lawful permanent resident of the United States since 1990. Mr. Martin lives in New York with his elderly U.S. citizen and veteran father, who he takes care of, and he is close with his two sisters, a daughter, a son, a stepdaughter and a grandchild. All of Mr. Martin’s significant family members are U.S. citizens residing in the United States.

Mr. Martin faced deportation back to Guyana based upon a March 8, 1999 conviction for second-degree bail jumping for failing to appear in court on a single occasion on unrelated charges as to which he was fully acquitted. He is thrilled that the Governor has granted him this important relief and that he no longer has to live in fear that he will have to leave behind his family and community.

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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)*