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Data: City Marshals Executed 11,973 Evictions in 2023, More Than Double Compared to 2022

In Response, Housing Attorneys Call on Albany to Enact "Good Cause" to Equip Tenants in Unregulated Units With Basic Protections to Defend Against Unwarranted Evictions, Exorbitant Rent Increases

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society, in response to City <u>data</u> revealing that New York City Marshals executed <u>11,973 evictions</u> in 2023 (as of January 4), more than twice the previous year's total — 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.

2023 Executed Evictions by Month

Month	Executed Evictions
January 2023	795
February 2023	627
March 2023	807
April 2023	687
May 2023	977
June 2023	1,245
July 2023	1,106
August 2023	1,315
September 2023	1,117
October 2023	1,329

November 2023	1,155
December 2023	813
Grand Total:	11,973

2023 Executed Evictions by Borough

Borough	Executed Evictions
Bronx	4,000
Brooklyn	3,516
Manhattan	2,224
Queens	1,722
Staten Island	511
Grand Total:	11,973

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.

"New York's housing crisis shows no signs of abating soon, and left unaddressed, more New Yorkers will face eviction and displacement from their homes and communities," said **Judith Goldiner, Attorney-In-Charge of the Civil Law Reform Unit at The Legal Aid Society**. "This moment demands that Albany lawmakers finally enact 'Good Cause' eviction to ensure that tenants in unregulated units have basic protections to defend against unwarranted evictions and exorbitant rent increases. The Legal Aid Society looks forward to working with both Governor Hochul and the Legislature to see this budget-neutral, common-sense legislation finally codified into law."

Background on "Good Cause"

"Good Cause" would require landlords to demonstrate a justification 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>Leaders of New York's largest labor unions</u> and <u>New York State Attorney General Letitia James</u> also support "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>