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

## Joint Statement from Legal Aid, Coalition for the Homeless on NYC DOI Report on PATH Intake Issues

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society and the Coalition for the Homeless issued the following joint statement in response to a <u>report</u> released today by the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI) which examined issues at the Prevention Assistance and Temporary Housing Intake Center (PATH), an intake facility in the Bronx for families with children seeking shelter:

"This investigation reveals a disturbing cover-up by the City to hide the number of Right to Shelter violations it amassed in the summer of 2022. We are extremely troubled by the City's actions, and by the finding that the City manipulated shelter eligibility data for families with children.

"The City Council should immediately hold an oversight hearing in response to this report and work towards legislative solutions to guarantee that PATH is processing families in a timely fashion and placing them in appropriate shelter, that records are accurately kept to ensure the integrity of the data reported to the public, and that the City is complying with their legal and moral mandate to provide shelter to homeless families with children who seek it."

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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. <a href="www.legalaidnyc.org">www.legalaidnyc.org</a>