



January 9, 2024

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Joint Statement from Legal Aid, Coalition for the Homeless on the City Evacuating Families with Children from Floyd Bennett Field

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society and the Coalition for the Homeless issued the following joint statement in response to the City evacuating families with children from Floyd Bennett Field:

"This last-minute evacuation further proves that Floyd Bennett Field - a facility mired in a flood zone, miles from schools and other services - has never and will never serve as an appropriate and safe place to shelter families with children.

"The City has provided scant details on its plan for these families, including where exactly they will be moved and for how long and, most importantly, if those temporary locations comply with the shelter requirements for families with children as prescribed by the court and by law.

"Needless to say, today will be very traumatic and disruptive for these families. We fear, especially with more inclement weather expected this winter, that this is only a foreshadow of more problems to come, and we again urge the City to cease placing families with children at this facility."

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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. www.legalaidnyc.org