



February 2, 2024

Contact:

Redmond Haskins
Director of Media Relations
The Legal Aid Society
rhaskins@legal-aid.org
929.441.2384

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

Statement in Response to Reporting that the NYPD Subway Robot Will No Longer Patrol Times Square Subway Station

(NEW YORK, NY) – Shane Ferro, Staff Attorney with the Digital Forensics Unit at The Legal Aid Society, released the following statement in response to [reporting](#) that the New York City Police Department (NYPD) subway robot will no longer patrol the Times Square subway station:

“The Adams’ Administration continues to be distracted by false claims of high-tech solutions to age-old issues. The NYPD subway robot is an unnecessary expense and public gimmick that serves no legitimate safety purpose.

“The Public Oversight of Surveillance Technology (POST) Act, enacted law, requires transparency over the NYPD’s proposed use of invasive technologies. The NYPD failed to seek feedback from community members regarding the Times Square autonomous robot, among other new surveillance expenditures, as the law mandates. We will continue to fight to ensure that the NYPD complies with the Act’s basic disclosure and reporting requirements.”

Background

Last June, Legal Aid [called](#) on the New York City Department of Investigation, Office of the Inspector General for the NYPD to investigate the Adams Administration’s rollout of these surveillance technologies - including the subway robot, DigiDog and others - that violated the Police Oversight of Surveillance Technology (POST) Act.

###

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