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

Legal Aid Releases List of Current NYPD Members of Service Most-Named in Civil Lawsuits, Members of Service with Highest Lawsuit Payouts from January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2023

Report Comes After Legal Aid Released an Analysis on NYPD Lawsuit Payouts Which Have Cost Taxpayers More Than \$548 Million Since 2018

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society today released a list of active New York City Police Department (NYPD) members of service (all ranks) who garnered the highest <u>lawsuit payouts</u> and who were <u>defendants</u> in the most civil rights lawsuits alleging police misconduct from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2023, per City data.

This analysis comes after Legal Aid released a <u>report</u> last month revealing that the City paid out <u>\$114,586,723</u> <u>million</u> in lawsuits alleging police misconduct for 2023, the second-highest annual payout since 2018. Moreover, the median annual payout continues to steadily rise compared to prior years, reaching \$25,000 for 2023.

Since 2018, these lawsuits have cost taxpayers a staggering \$548,047,141.

Total payouts for police misconduct are likely to be substantially higher because these data do not account for matters that were settled with the New York City Comptroller's office prior to formal litigation.

"Together, these NYPD members of service have garnered hundreds of lawsuits raising alarming allegations of misconduct and costing taxpayers staggering amounts of money. Yet many of these officers are still allowed to wear a badge and carry a gun," said **Jennvine Wong, Staff Attorney with the Cop Accountability Project at The Legal Aid Society.** "Moreover, despite these allegations, many have attained ranks of sergeant or above. So long as NYPD leadership continues to allow problematic officers to rise through the ranks and refuses to address the Department's culture of impunity, our clients - the majority of whom are from Black and Latinx communities - will continue to shoulder the consequences and the general public's trust of the NYPD will remain fractured."

Active Members of Service (all ranks) with the Highest Total Payout Amounts From January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2023

Name	# of Cases Filed Since 2013	Current Rank	Total Payout Sum
Pedro Rodriguez	4	Police Officer	\$12,050,000
Edwin Ching	7	Sergeant	\$8,330,751
Ryan Bracconeri	6	Detective	\$8,232,500
Jeffrey Griffin	5	Sergeant	\$8,210,000
William Concannon	7	Detective	\$7,050,000
Michael O'Sullivan	2	Detective	\$4,250,000
Juan Moreno	4	Lieutenant	\$4,179,000
Eugene Keller	3	Detective	\$4,155,000
Michael McManus	3	Police Officer	\$4,125,000
Brian Kehoe	2	Police Officer	\$4,100,000

Full list: <u>https://legalaidnyc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/EXCEL-top_payouts_active_summary_2_2024-</u>2.xlsx

Active Members of Service (all ranks) Most-Named in Civil Lawsuits From January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2023

Name	# of Cases Filed Since 2013	Current Rank	Total Payout Sum
David Grieco	48	Sergeant	\$1,134,825.35
Abdiel Anderson	25	Detective	\$527,500
Jodi Brown	24	Detective	\$1,359,000
Waliur Rahman	23	Detective	\$460,500
Ricardo Bocachica	21	Detective	\$518,364.80
Henry Daverin	20	Lieutenant	\$1,556,500
William Schumacher	20	Police Officer	\$337,000
Wilfredo Benitez	19	Detective	\$482,500
Edmundo Rivera	19	Sergeant	\$683,000
Robert Jaquez	18	Detective	\$1,026,943.13
Alan Chau	18	Lieutenant	\$224,500
Luilly Vargas	18	Detective	\$637,860.86
Nelson Nin	18	Detective	\$310,000

Full list: <u>https://legalaidnyc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/EXCEL-top_named_allmos_summary_2_2024-1.xlsx</u>

Lawsuit Allegation Summaries

Hui Ming Lin et. al. v. City of New York et. al.

Incident date: March 10, 2023

Litigation filed: November 9, 2023

Settlement date: N/A

Payout: N/A

On March 10, 2023, Hui Ming Lin was lawfully present at 5103 7th Avenue in Brooklyn when approached, assaulted, battered, placed in handcuffs, and falsely arrested by police officers Pedro A. Rodriguez and other officers.

The assault and battery consisted of being grabbed, pulled, punched, struck, kicked, twisted, and taken to the ground. The assault and battery was without probable cause and was not the result of an appropriate arrest.

By reason of said assault and battery, Hui Ming Lin was caused to suffer severe and serious injuries, great pain, distress, mental shock, mental anguish, and psychological trauma. Hui Ming Lin was injured without justification and without probable cause and eventually imprisoned. Hui Ming Lin's spouse, Sai Feng Chen, was deprived of the society and services of Hui Ming Lin and expended diverse sums of money in payment of the expenses incurred for medical care, treatment, and hospitalization of Hui Ming Lin.

One of the officers involved, Officer Pedro A. Rodriguez, has been named as a defendant in at least three other lawsuits dating back to 2015 with one other also pending. The total amount of settlement payouts to date is \$12,050,000. Rodriguez has also been the subject of at least ten civilian complaints with the CCRB.

Willy Nolasco v. City of New York et. al.

Incident date: February 9, 2022

Litigation filed: August 2, 2022

Settlement date: April 5, 2023

Payout: \$125,000

On February 9, 2022, Willy Nolasco was lawfully in the vicinity of Grant Avenue and East 167th Street in the Bronx doing nothing illegal, improper, or acting suspicious in anyway when Detective Luilly Varga and others from the NYPD, absent an arrest warrant, probable cause, reasonable cause, or any legal justification, approached Nolasco for no reason, and based on fraud, perjury and misrepresentations, summarily stopped, searched, grabbed, assaulted, battered, and detained Nolasco in an aggressive and excessive manner.

Nolasco was arraigned after his arrest and thereafter falsely and maliciously prosecuted with committing a crime. Nolasco sustained physical and emotional pain and injuries as a result of this incident. Nolasco remained

incarcerated for over 24 hours and was required to make numerous court appearances over an extended period of time until all charges against him were terminated favorably.

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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>