

March 27, 2024

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

Statement in Response to City's Reply in Litigation Seeking the Full Implementation of CityFHEPS Reform and Expansion Laws

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society released the following statement in response to the City's <u>opposition</u> in <u>Marie Vincent et. al. v. Mayor Eric Adams et. al.</u>, litigation brought by Legal Aid to compel the Adams Administration to fully implement the recently enacted reforms to the City Fighting Homelessness and Eviction Prevention Supplement (CityFHEPS) program:

"The City's claim that the Council is precluded from legislating on CityFHEPS is baseless and willfully ignores the reality that the Council has done so in the past. No administration has the legal authority to cherry-pick which laws they choose to enforce and which they choose to disregard, and we're committed to ensuring the full implementation of this legislative package, one duly enacted by the City Council, to serve our clients who are in need of safe, long-term and affordable housing."

Background

Last month, Legal Aid filed a <u>class action lawsuit</u> in New York State Supreme Court against Mayor Eric Adams and the City to compel the Administration to fully implement CityFHEPS. The lawsuit was filed on behalf of New Yorkers who would be eligible for CityFHEPS under the new laws but who are barred from accessing the rent subsidy because the Adams Administration refuses to enforce the law.

Full case docket: <u>https://tinyurl.com/mfjw7bpa</u>.

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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>