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Contact:

Alejandra Lopez
The Legal Aid Society
ailopez@legal-aid.org

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

Legal Aid Statement on the Biden Administration’s New Protections for Undocumented Spouses of U.S. Citizens and “Dreamers”

(NEW YORK, NY) – **The Legal Aid Society** released the following statement in response to a new executive order issued by President Joe Biden that will shield certain undocumented spouses of U.S. citizens from deportation, allow them to obtain work authorization, provide a pathway to permanent resident status, as well as streamline work visa access for some “Dreamers”:

“While we are waiting on details, we laud President Biden for using his executive power to protect as many as 500,000 people who have been waiting in immigration limbo for years, without a pathway to citizenship. These new protections will keep families and communities together and help fortify our economy.

“However, these measures, while welcomed, should not supplant the need for more humane and comprehensive immigration reform, and we again urge Congress to pass robust legislation that will provide relief for long-term undocumented immigrants.”

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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