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Contact:

Redmond Haskins  
[Rhaskins@legal-aid.org](mailto:Rhaskins@legal-aid.org)  
929.441.2384

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

***Statement in Response to the NYPD's Latest Unhinged Attack on a Local Journalist***

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society released the following statement in response to the New York City Police Department's (NYPD) latest [unhinged attack](#) on a local journalist:

“The NYPD’s latest craven and deranged attack on a local journalist, if anything, reveals the NYPD brass’ delusional expectation that reporters should only heap praise on the NYPD and forgo reporting on the daily parade of scandals, misconduct, and other embarrassments from the Department that seem to be these days as guaranteed in life as death and taxes.

“Moreover, their statement serves as a self-indictment of the [86-member NYPD press office](#) who seemingly lack the ability to shape stories, and who instead take to social media - the very same tactic they lament their critics of doing - with a petulant, overlong, and poorly written missive.

“To expend this much time, effort, and taxpayer resources ‘fighting back’ against a pro forma story on [NYPD brass’ traffic violations](#) - a story that virtually all elected and senior government officials receive in their tenure - is, frankly, laughably thin-skinned. This childish behavior from top brass does not further public safety, and it erodes trust between the police and the communities they purport to serve.

“The Legal Aid Society is an ardent supporter of the freedom of speech and freedom of the press, and New York City’s press corps is vital towards holding those in power to account, reporting on stories critical to the general public, and shedding light on the injustices that our clients face.”

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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. <https://www.legalaidnyc.org>*