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Contact:

Press@legal-aid.org

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

Legal Aid Statement on Latest Death in Custody

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society issued the following statement in response to the latest [New Yorker to die in law enforcement custody](#):

“Earlier this morning, we learned that another New Yorker, who we represented in a pending matter, died in law enforcement custody at 100 Centre Street in Manhattan. This tragic death follows the passing of [Soso Ramishvili](#) on Friday, who suffered for days in New York City Police Department custody and was denied the urgent medical care he required, ultimately leading to his untimely death.

“The ongoing indifference shown by law enforcement toward justice-involved New Yorkers is deeply troubling. Over the past month, six people have tragically lost their lives while in custody, and the Adams administration has yet to publicly address what actions are being taken to prevent such tragedies.

“We call for an immediate, comprehensive, and impartial investigation into this most recent death in custody. In each of these heartbreaking incidents, the City continues to block access to even the most basic information about what occurred, denying counsel, the family, and the public rightful transparency. This conduct is unacceptable.

“This latest tragic loss of life further underscores the harmful and devastating impacts of the Adams Administration’s problematic approach to criminalizing poverty and prioritizing incarceration through broken-windows policing, rather than investing in resources and community-based support. Our client needed supportive services, but instead spent their final hours confined to a cage.

“The Legal Aid Society mourns the loss of yet another client and we demand urgent answers regarding their death.”

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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 nearly 150 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