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

***Statement in Response to Reporting on the Death of a 22-Year-Old
Incarcerated Person at Mid-State C.F.***

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society released the following statement in response to the [reporting](#) of the death of a 22-year-old incarcerated person at Mid-State Correctional Facility, the fifth death in New York’s prison system since the DOCCS strikes began on February 17th:

“The recent death of a 22-year-old at Mid-State Correctional Facility, who, according to reports, was brutally beaten by staff, is unconscionable, especially in the wake of the killing of Robert Brooks, who suffered a similar fate.

“DOCCS must immediately release all camera footage and information regarding this incident. Transparency is non-negotiable, and the public has a right to know what happened.

“This tragedy underscores the inherent culture of staff violence that pervades New York’s prisons, and the urgent need for transparency, accountability, and reform. Moreover, the Hochul Administration must stop trying to roll back policies designed to protect the people in prison from the harms of solitary confinement and instead take immediate and decisive steps to ensure the safety of individuals incarcerated in state prisons by taking corrective action to end systemic staff violence in New York’s prisons and holding staff responsible for the violence accountable.

“This moment demands more than an investigation into this tragedy – it demands bold action from our leaders in Albany to confront this crisis head-on before more lives are lost at the hands

of the very people charged with keeping prisons safe.”

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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