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

Legal Aid Society Condemns Supreme Court Ruling Allowing Discriminatory Passport Policy

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society issued the following statement in response to a [ruling](#) by the Supreme Court of the United States granting the Trump Administration’s request to stay a preliminary injunction in *Orr v. Trump*, allowing the government to enforce a discriminatory passport policy against transgender, gender non-conforming, non-binary, and intersex (TGNCNBI) people:

“This ruling is a serious setback for the freedom of TGNCNBI people to live authentically, and it represents a troubling continuation of the Trump Administration’s efforts to roll back the constitutional principles that protect us all.

“While this order is temporary and the underlying case continues in the lower courts, its immediate consequences are profound. Forcing transgender people to carry passports that misrepresent who they are exposes them to discrimination and danger, denying them the dignity of being recognized for who they truly are. It sends a painful message that their identities are matters of political controversy rather than expressions of fundamental human dignity. The attempted erasure of transgender identity exposes us all to the kinds of scrutiny that erode the very fabric of our constitutional rights and the ability to exist freely in our bodies as our most authentic selves.

“Specifically, the ruling creates serious practical problems for TGNCNBI people whose state-issued identification accurately reflects their gender but whose federal passport will now conflict with it — a discrepancy that can cause confusion, denial of services, and safety risks when traveling or verifying identity.

“The Legal Aid Society stands in solidarity with our TGNCNBI colleagues, and the people and communities we serve, and remains unwavering in our commitment to equality, dignity, and justice for all. As we approach Trans Day of Remembrance later this month, we recommit ourselves to honoring the lives of those lost to anti-transgender violence and to advancing a world where all people can live safely and authentically.”

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The Legal Aid Society is a nonprofit organization that 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.

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