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

Legal Aid Statement on the Appointment and Reappointment of Rent Guidelines Board Members

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society released the following statement on Mayor Zohran Mamdani’s [new appointments and reappointments](#) of Chantella Mitchell, Lauren Melodia, Brandon Mancilla, Sina Sinai, Maksim Wynn, and Adán Soltren to the New York City Rent Guidelines Board:

“We congratulate the new and reappointed members of the Rent Guidelines Board, including The Legal Aid Society’s Adán Soltren and UAW’s Region 9A Director Brandon Mancilla. Amid a historic affordability crisis and the financial hardships facing rent-stabilized tenants — many of whom Legal Aid serves — it is more vital than ever for the Board to provide urgently needed relief to the more than two million working-class New Yorkers who live in rent-stabilized homes by freezing rents.

“Anything less than an outright freeze at the final vote in June will have catastrophic consequences for an already vulnerable population of renters, particularly given the [cumulative 12 percent rent hike](#) they endured under the previous administration — an increase that was not justified by the [data](#).

“As we have throughout our 150-year history serving low-income New Yorkers, we will hold the Board to account and make clear that a rent freeze is critical to help ensure these households can remain safely and stably in their homes and longtime communities.”

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The Legal Aid Society is a nonprofit law firm 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 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 the people we serve and helps improve our communities.

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